

## U.S. will pull out of Iraq

GENEVA (R) — U.S. forces will withdraw from Iraq soon regardless of whether Baghdad accepts the tough U.N. resolution dictating the terms for an end to the conflict, a U.S. official said Friday. "We're going to pull out soon. I can't give you a definite date but it's not conditioned on whether Iraq accepts the resolution," U.S. Assistant Secretary of State John Bolton told reporters. "If Iraq doesn't accept the resolution, they don't get a ceasefire and they don't get their oil flow turned back on, which is why we think ultimately they're going to have to accept it." U.S. President George Bush sent Mr. Bolton to Geneva on Thursday night to try to coordinate aid for refugees fleeing violence. The primary reference to allied forces in U.N. Security Council Resolution 687, passed Wednesday, says "conditions will be established" for them to leave Iraq once a U.N. observer unit is completely deployed between Kuwait and Iraq (see page 5).

# Jordan Times

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## Andreotti to try to form new cabinet

ROME (AP) — A week after his government collapsed, six-time Premier Giulio Andreotti was asked Friday to try to form Italy's 50th postwar cabinet. President Francesco Cossiga had summoned the 72-year-old Christian Democrat to the Quirinal Presidential Palace to give him the task. Since his resignation on March 29, Mr. Andreotti has been staying on as a caretaker premier. Mr. Andreotti must now begin negotiations to gain support from his former coalition partners for another government. Mr. Andreotti's government fell after 20 months in office. The five-party coalition had been feuding over how to rein in public spending and debt, fight organized crime and, especially, reform government institutions and the electoral system. His chances of success rested with the Socialists, the second largest party in the outgoing coalition. The government collapsed when the Socialists withdrew their support, and they have been demanding firm commitments to reform Italy's system of government as a price for their renewed backing.

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## Iraq offers amnesty to Kurds

Combined agency dispatches

IRAQI FRIDAY offered amnesty to rebellious Kurds, but hundreds of thousands of refugees continued to besiege the borders of neighbouring states and the west began sending humanitarian aid.

A decree from the ruling Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) gave Kurds inside Iraq a week to take advantage of the offer. Those who had fled abroad had two weeks to report back to Iraqi authorities.

The decree, published by the Iraqi News Agency (INA), said the amnesty covered all Kurds "except those who committed murder, rape and looting during acts of riots and treason."

Reports from Turkey and Iran say about two million of Iraq's 3.5 million Kurds are fleeing there, fearing reprisals by Iraqi troops following the collapse of their month-old rebellion.

The government offer specifically mentioned Kurdish deserters from the police and armed forces who joined the rebellion.

The decree said the government had ordered all its officials to abide by the terms of the amnesty. Those who returned would have their rights guaranteed.

"We are confident of the future despite treacherous plots against us, including what is happening at the council of injustice, the so-called Security Council," an RCC statement said after a meeting chaired by President Saddam Hussein.

INA reported that President Saddam Hussein was briefed by his number two, Izzat Ibrahim, on the Kurdish rebellion in northern Iraq. Mr. Ibrahim was in charge of putting down the rebellion and an earlier attempt by Shiites in the south.

The rebellion in Iraq's Shiite heartland began the day after U.S.-led allies declared a truce in the Gulf war on Feb. 28. The Kurdish rebellion began a few days later.

The decree statement said: "Law, order, security and stability have returned to all cities of Iraq. The time is ripe for embarking on the new phase which... requires great sacrifices."

Turkish President Turgut Ozal, meanwhile, hinted his country might take military action against Iraq and Iran's spiritual leader urged Iraqis to continue their rebellion.

Kurdish guerrilla leader Jalal Talabani of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan said the amnesty offer "doesn't seem to be serious" and noted the government had declared similar amnesties after past rebellions.

"If the government is serious about its intent, then it has to announce that it is quite prepared to conduct a free referendum under the United Nations," he said in a statement relayed through the union office in Syria.

Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency reported that more than 70,000 refugees had crossed into its territory and that more than one million were trying to cross.

Mr. Ozal hinted at use of force against Iraq to stop the flood, according to a report in the English-

language Turkish Daily News.

It said a deputy from his governing Motherland Party asked during a dinner if Turkey might resort to force.

"Naturally, since we cannot stop these people from trying to escape from the attacks, we shall try to stop the other side," he was quoted as saying.

During a Friday prayer service at Tehran University, Iran's spiritual leader, Ali Khamenei, urged Kurds and Shiites in southern Iraq to continue their rebellion.

"If you resist, victory will be yours. Of course, sacrifice is needed, and the task is difficult," he said in remarks carried by Tehran Radio.

"If the present regime continues to exist, it will take the worst revenge," he added.

Associated Press correspondent Alex Efrayim, with the rebels in Kurdistan, said some refugees were ready to respond to the amnesty.

"It is better to return than to watch our children and women die in the

(Continued on page 4)

## Iraq wants mission to witness treatment of Kurds

BRUSSELS (R) — Baghdad has asked for an international fact-finding team to witness its treatment of the Kurds following its offer of an amnesty to Kurdish rebels, the Iraqi ambassador to Belgium said Friday.

"We have asked the highest international levels to verify with a delegation what is happening," Ambassador Zaid Haidar told a Belgian television reporter, in an apparent reference to the United Nations.

Mr. Haidar added the delegation would be "well received" in Iraq but gave no further details.

Iraq earlier on Friday offered an amnesty to Kurds who took part in a failed rebellion. Hundreds of thousands of Kurds are fleeing Iraq, France, Britain and the United States pressed the U.N. Security Council to adopt a resolution Friday demanding that Iraq stop its military action against the Kurds.

The three countries also want Baghdad to allow humanitarian groups into Iraq to reach those in need of help.

"There are hundreds, probably thousands of bedraggled, bootless, freezing people being driven across the mountains of Iraq by tank, helicopter gunships and so on," said British ambassador to the U.N., Sir David Hannay.

"All that needs to be addressed by the council."

Mr. Hannay added that he thought there could be a vote on Friday on the resolution, drafted by France.

But reservations about the new draft are numerous and the text is

expected to be amended.

China, Yemen and Cuba are believed to strongly oppose setting any precedent for the council interfering in a country's internal affairs in violation of the U.N. Charter.

Council sources said negotiations in varying degrees were also expressed by the Soviet Union, India, Romania and Zimbabwe at informal consultations late Thursday.

The United States, France and Britain argue that the situation in Iraq has given rise to world-wide concern so it is no longer an internal matter.

Mr. Hannay and U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering said security was threatened because of the huge flow of refugees into neighbouring Turkey and Iran.

Mr. Pickering told reporters the United States feels "there is a clear threat here to peace and security in the region and that the possibility to end the repression of the Kurds and others in Iraq who are streaming over the border and to extend humanitarian assistance is extremely important."

Iraqi Ambassador Abdul Amir Al Anbari said: "The U.S.-led coalition almost destroyed Iraq but that doesn't mean Iraq is a free-for-all."

He accused Turkey and Iran of taking advantage of "the tragic situation" following the Gulf war in order to commit "all sorts of subversive actions" to destabilise his country.

"I believe Turkey is the last country on earth to pretend to be con-

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## Palestinians' situation perilous, NGOs report

AMMAN (J.T.) — Measures imposed by the Israeli occupation authorities during and after the Gulf war have made life unbearable for the Palestinians living in the occupied territories and a new "pass system" introduced by the Israeli army has further aggravated the suffering of the people, according to a report issued by a panel representing non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

The Palestinians are also "experiencing their most serious economic recession since 1968," said the report, released by the Coordinating Committee of International NGOs (CCINGO).

The report gives a chilling account of the deteriorating situation for Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip — the curfew for weeks on end, tantamount to house arrest; the loss of jobs and the devastation of the economy.

Following is the full report, a copy of which was made available to the Jordan Times:

Four weeks after the end of the Gulf war, the strictly enforced night-time curfew is still in place over the 850,000 Palestinian residents of the Gaza Strip, while it has been lifted in some areas of

the West Bank. Day-time curfews, many lasting for several weeks continue to be imposed throughout the occupied territories. For example, the village of Anabta was under curfew for 23 consecutive days from Feb. 28-March 22. As of today, the town of Qabatyia has been under continuous curfew for 16 days. The residents of Beit Sahour have been under curfew for three days while those of Nur Shams refugee camp were confined to their homes for 14 days during the month of March. The two main commercial districts in Gaza City, Palestine Square and the Sira market have been under continuous curfew since January 16.

Despite the claims of Israeli authorities, life in the occupied territories has not returned to normal. On the contrary, Palestinians are being subjected to an entirely new form of domination — the pass system. All movement between and within the West Bank and Gaza Strip is now tightly controlled. No Palestinians are allowed to pass through or enter into East Jerusalem without a special permit, cutting off the majority of the Palestinian

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## Yeltsin boosted

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian leader Boris Yeltsin emerged from a stormy parliament session Friday poised to challenge Mikhail Gorbachev with new executive powers and the chance to become the republic's first president.

The extraordinary Russian Federation Congress of People's Deputies set a June 12 presidential election date and granted Mr. Yeltsin temporary new authority to pursue more radical reforms than the Soviet president has implemented.

But reformers in the state-mandated parliament failed to amend Russia's constitution to make the powers permanent under a new post of Russian president. They managed only to set May 21 as the date for another session to try to approve the presidency, and June 12 for the election itself.

Mr. Yeltsin, commonly called the president of the Russian Republic, is actually the chairman of its parliament.

After nine days of stormy debate, the congress was winding down to a conclusion that reflected the deep divisions between the hardliners backing Mr. Gorbachev and the radicals backing Mr. Yeltsin.

Mr. Yeltsin won no powers to enforce his new authority and there was no assurance local officials would obey him. The powers posed a risk for Mr. Yeltsin, who could be blamed more harshly for the republic's complex economic and ethnic problems if he fails to find effective resolutions.

But Mr. Yeltsin's new powers and the promise of election put him in a better position to force Mr. Gorbachev to cooperate with the assertive leaders of the Soviet Union's biggest and richest republic.

## Residents flood to Sulaimaniyah...

From Lamis Andoni in Sulaimaniyah

TENS OF THOUSANDS of Kurds who fled fighting between government forces and Kurdish insurgents were returning to their homes Friday as the Iraqi army appeared in full control of all major northern cities.

The refugees were coming back on foot, cars and army on their way to Sulaimaniyah, Erbil, Kirkuk and other Kurdish cities which were recaptured by the Iraqi army over the last week. At the northern entrance of Sulaimaniyah Iraqi soldiers were organising the flood of tired looking families — mostly women and children — who had taken refuge in the neighbouring mountainous villages.

A low-flying helicopter hovered over the area, as an army spokesman appealed to the Kurds through a loud speaker to return

home and assured them safety. "We urge you to return. You will be safe. No one will be hurt," a voice in Kurdish echoed across the green hills and steppes.

Sulaimaniyah, the last stronghold for the Kurdish rebels, was recaptured by the army Wednesday after nearly a month of control by the armed insurgents.

Except for a few damaged buildings in the city centre and at the entrance of the city, there were no signs of heavy fighting when journalists toured Sulaimaniyah Friday morning.

Residents and soldiers said that it did not take the Republican Guards — the elite Iraqi force — more than a few hours to recapture the city.

"They (the insurgents) did not put up strong resistance," said one

soldier. Residents who did not flee the violence said the rebels started withdrawing hours before the army launched its attack to recapture the city.

A few hours prior the army's attack the rebels urged the residents to flee the city warning them of severe retaliation by the Iraqi army. "They came to our houses and told us that we should leave because the army was about to destroy the city," said a young Kurdish woman. Others said the rebels told them that the army was preparing to use chemical and other lethal weapons. "Thousands fled, but nothing of that sort happened," said Barazan Said Ahmad, a Kurdish businessman.

Returning Kurds said the massive exodus from the northern

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## ..as Erbil remains serene and calm

By Sana Atiyeh in Erbil, Iraq

THE OUTSKIRTS of this green Iraqi Kurdish city were serene and calm on one day earlier this week but Iraqi troops still looked tired as they were piling up on army trucks to go home after battling for two days against Kurdish rebels who had controlled the city for 20 days. The city was recaptured by the government forces last Sunday.

Traces of light battles were evident some 15 kilometres outside Erbil, where damaged vehicles, some of them civilian, were seen. Military camps were spread out across the green-yellow plains. At what appeared to be a military base, four prisoners were seen waiting outside the headquarters with their hands tied behind their backs.

But the fiercest battles took place in the centre of the ancient city where the main governorate building, government buildings and institutions, which were taken over by the rebels, were burned or badly damaged.

Residents were seen returning to their city on foot and cars after the calm prevailed. According to one soldier, the army had distributed leaflets from helicopters on Erbil advising the residents to leave so as not to get caught in crossfire.

At the entrance of the city proud soldiers stood near a high school, where many soldiers stood and where a bloated corpse lay against the school wall on the sidewalk covered with cardboard. Looking at the graffiti on the school walls, the school appeared to have been occupied by the Kurdish Democratic Party. Inside, the school was completely destroyed, documents thrown everywhere, desks sporadically spread and broken in the school yard and the laboratory was burnt to ashes. An army officer said that the school was destroyed by "those demagogues and terrorists."

Residents of Erbil told journalists that rebels had occupied this provincial capital of the Iraqi Kurdistan on March 11 and occupied government buildings and institutions.

"They entered the city at 7 a.m.," Tawfiq Owaid told reporters outside the school. "They carried machine guns, rocket launchers and light weapons and came on foot and by cars from the north."

The city traffic police station was demolished. The chief of police, Kassem Al Dura, said that the rebels, who occupied the building, had destroyed all the files and documents.

"On March 11, the saboteurs attacked these headquarters, looted everything and burned all the furniture and equipment," Mr. Dura told journalists in front of the damaged station, adding that the insurgents had also looted the homes of government officials in the city.

The police station appeared to have been occupied by the Communist Party before they were either crushed by the government troops or before they fled.

The graffiti on the walls of the buildings indicated that many

(Continued on page 4)



'SHOW OF SUPPORT': A boy holds up a copy of the Holy Quran and a toy gun while a veiled woman also holds up the Holy Book at a rally organised by the Muslim Brotherhood after Friday prayers (see page 3)

Photos by Youssef Al 'Adani

## Baker due in Mideast

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State James Baker will visit Israel and Egypt next week to push for a Middle East peace settlement, the State Department said Friday.

Mr. Baker will visit Israel Tuesday and will stop in Egypt before his return Friday, spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said.

"The purpose of this trip is to see if we can bring the parties closer together," Ms. Tutwiler said.

She said that on his first trip to the region three weeks ago, Mr. Baker sought to establish agreement on a basic approach and to explore possible steps that the parties could take to end the Middle East stalemate.

Mr. Baker will depart for the region on Sunday after conferring on Saturday with President George Bush in Houston.

"The president and the secretary feel that another trip at this time will be helpful in this process," Ms. Tutwiler said. "It is important if we are to try and take advantage of the window of opportunity that all agree exists."

She added that the trip also underlines the U.S. commitment to work actively to promote and reconciliation among Israel, the Arab states and the Palestinians.

After his previous trip to the region, Mr. Baker had said he expected to be in telephone contact with the leaders there to discuss possible steps towards a settlement.

Ms. Tutwiler refused to discuss the outcome of those contacts, saying she was not going to play the "positive, negative, progress, non-progress game."

Mr. Baker has indicated that

(Continued on page 2)

## Aspin ends visit to Jordan today

AMMAN (J.T.) — U.S. Congressman Les Aspin is expected to wind up Saturday a two-day visit to Jordan during which he was received by His Majesty King Hussein with whom he reviewed efforts for finding a solution to the Palestine question, Petra said.

Mr. Aspin, Chairman of the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee, had a meeting later with Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb on the

general military situation in the region and Jordan's position vis-a-vis the various Middle East problems.

Mr. Aspin also held talks with Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, who reaffirmed Jordan's welcome of recent statements by President George Bush on settling the Arab-Israeli conflict on the basis

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هنا من الاصل



## PLO leaders meet on row over armed presence in S. Lebanon

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Palestine Central Council (PCC) is scheduled to meet in Tunis on April 21 and the key topics for discussion include the overall political situation in the Palestinian arena after the Gulf war and fears that another massacre of Palestinians could be in the making in South Lebanon, informed sources said Friday.

While the ongoing U.S.-led efforts to realise an American-Israeli version of a solution to the Palestinian problem and political splits with Palestinian factions remain very much on the centre-stage for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), a sense of urgency also surrounds the situation in South Lebanon, where Palestinian guerrillas have been serving a Lebanese government order to surrender their weapons to the army as part of Beirut's attempt to exercise its authority all over Lebanon.

Senior Palestinian leaders are holding urgent consultations to avert what they see as an impending catastrophe in Lebanon if the Palestinian fighters in the south were to be disarmed and exposed to Israeli as well as rival militia attacks, Palestinian sources said.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat has been presiding over the meeting of the PLO's Lebanon Committee ahead of an April 30 deadline set by the Beirut government for its disarmament order.

Mr. Arafat's representative in Lebanon has rejected the ultimatum and the Lebanese defence minister has vowed to implement the order by the government of Syrian-supported President Elias Hra-

wi. In principle, the PLO welcomes the Lebanese government's effort to disarm all armed elements in the country, but it believes that the issue of Palestinian armed presence should be taken up by the Palestinian and Lebanese leadership "in a framework of common goals and struggle against the enemy," a senior PLO official said.

"We welcome the Lebanese government's moves to disarm the bandits and gangs in Lebanon and exert its authority all over the country," PLO Executive Committee member Mohammad Milhem said in an apparent reference to the various Lebanese sectarian militias.

But, he pointed out, the Palestinian armed presence is "different from the security situation in Lebanon since the Palestinians are armed to protect themselves as well as the Lebanese."

"The Palestinians are also protecting Lebanese sovereignty against Israel," Mr. Milhem said. "We should work together to end the Israeli occupation of Lebanese land," he added, referring to a self-styled "security zone" that Israel and its surrogate forces maintain within Lebanese territory.

"We believe that the Lebanese government and the PLO leadership should discuss the issue and reach an agreement based on this understanding," Mr. Milhem told the Jordan Times.

Behind the PLO concern over disarming its fighters in South Lebanon are several factors, including fears that the guerrillas would be left vulnerable to raids by the Israeli army and exposed to assaults by Lebanese groups which have for years maintained hos-

tility towards the Palestinians. Furthermore, the Palestinian community in South Lebanon also represents the last vestige of Palestinian armed struggle against Israel.

Mr. Milhem dismissed as invalid a decree issued by the then government of Amin Gemayel in 1987 annulling a Lebanese-Palestinian agreement of 1968 which authorised Palestinians to carry arms in Lebanon.

"The agreement was made between two parties and it cannot be abrogated unilaterally," Mr. Milhem said. In any event, he said, the Palestinian armed presence in South Lebanon is "closely linked with the aspirations and goals of the Palestinian people."

The ongoing meeting in Tunis of the Lebanese Committee — which comprises representatives of all PLO factions — is expected to issue recommendations to the Central Council's meeting on April 21.

The 80-member Central Council liaises between the 450-member Palestine National Council (PNC) — the Palestinian parliament — and the PLO Executive Committee.

PLO officials have repeatedly called for dialogue with the Beirut government over the Palestinian presence in Lebanon, but analysts expect little positive response from Beirut as long as the mainstream PLO leadership and the Syrian government remain at odds over Middle East peace efforts.

At least two Syrian-based PLO factions which are represented in the PLO Executive Committee have also rejected the demand for surrender of Palestinian weapons and called for talks with the Beirut government.

## Iranian opposition describes battle in Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — An Iraqi-based Iranian opposition group on Thursday described what it said were three weeks of battles with Iranian government forces in Iraq, including a major showdown this week.

U.S. officials have said there is no evidence to indicate any kind of serious military effort by Iran inside Iraq.

A State Department source who declined to be identified said late Thursday there has been no report of the April 1 battle described by the Mujahideen-e-Khalq of Iran.

The U.S. spokesman for the Iranian Mujahideen, Alireza Jafarzadeh, outlined what he said was a four-pronged assault by Iranian forces against rebel bases, displaying a battle map of the border area north of the eastern Iraqi town of Khanqin.

Mr. Jafarzadeh said 1,500 Iranian government soldiers were killed, while the Iraqi-based rebels, who waged a year-long battle against the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, lost 10.

He gave no details to explain why the battle was so lopsided, except to say that the resistance forces are superior to dismayed government troops.

He showed a videotape of interviews he said were with six captured government soldiers, as well as snapshots of battle scenes and tank movements that could not be independently verified. He said the interviews were conducted on Tuesday.

Mr. Jafarzadeh also presented lists of the names of 150 Iranians reportedly killed in Iraq territory and 20 Iranian military units he said had been used against the rebel forces.

He said the Iranians were taking advantage of unrest in Iraq to attack the rebel forces. Iran, he said, wants to install a fundamentalist Muslim government in Iraq.

The regime's forces in the latest assault, he said, entered Iran on March 31 and launched their attack the next day.

"After 18 hours of fierce fighting, the regime suffered a major defeat," Mr. Jafarzadeh said.

The group, which says it wants to install a democratic government in Iran, called for a United Nations investigation of Iran's cross-border activities.

Mr. Jafarzadeh declined to give details of the rebel force, but said it has high-powered weapons captured in previous assaults inside Iran and is supported entirely by Iranians.

## Peace activists get a bitter, first-hand taste of Israeli rule

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A group of activists are now back in Amman after having a firsthand taste of how the Palestinians live under occupation, how it is like to take a message of peace and justice to the Israelis and how the Israeli establishment is paranoid over anyone who calls for a fair settlement of the Palestinian problem. The Gulf Peace Team, whose 20 members undertook a peace march from Jericho in the occupied West Bank to occupied Jerusalem last week, encountered Israeli hostility and obstacles all along the 40 or so kilometres they walked from the biblical town to the Holy City, its members recount.

"It appeared that they (the Israeli military) were under orders not to allow the event at all," said Kathy Kelly, one of those who marched through the Holy Land. "Obviously, it was the first time ever that they saw anything like it and they did not know how to handle it," added Ms. Kelly, a veteran disarmament activist in the U.S. who had served term for staging anti-nuclear protest at home.

The group had the first bitter taste of the shape of things to come right at Al Hussein bridge, across the River Jordan, Sunday, when three of its Indian members were not allowed entry. The reason: "India does not recognise the state of Israel and therefore Indian nationals should secure prior Israeli permission to cross the river."

Only one Indian, Miss Bela Bhatia, a social worker in the western Indian state of Gujarat, had such a prior permission and she was allowed across. Miss Bhatia "proved to be the best asset we had since she had to do a lot of tough negotiations with the Israeli army throughout the march," Ms. Kelly said.

After crossing the river, the group teamed up with three Buddhist monks — who had proceeded on foot right from Amman earlier at a school in Jericho and was about to begin the march when it found the gates of the school sealed off by Israeli soldiers who argued that they had no information of the event and therefore could not let it proceed.

According to Ms. Kelly, the peace group had in fact formally notified the Israeli authorities of the event, but "did not bother to secure official permission since we were told such permission 'would not be granted.'"

"But right at the bridge, they



Israeli soldiers and members of a 'peace pilgrimage' to Jerusalem argue over the 'legality' of the march at Jericho in the occupied West Bank last week (Photo courtesy: Gulf Peace Team)

appeared to have been prepared to see about 1,000 marches," Ms. Kelly recounted. "Obviously they knew we were going in, but they seemed more and more worried about how their superiors would react and always sought instructions from higher and higher ups as we went along."

Several hours of "tough negotiations" with the security forces took place at Jericho — "they further argued that the area was a closed military zone and the proclamation was made about 15 minutes ago" — Ms. Kelly said. "Open threats of arrest and physical violence" were also part of the Israeli attempt to persuade the group to call off the event.

Five or six Palestinian nationals were to join the march, but "when they witnessed the protracted harassment they decided not to take part," according to Ms. Kelly.

Apparently, the Israeli strategy did not work with the Japanese and Buddhist monks, who brushed aside the objections of the army and proceeded to walk towards Jerusalem, chanting and beating drums as they went ahead, Ms. Kelly told the Jordan Times.

Short of physical violence, the Israeli soldiers could not have stopped the robed monks and apparently they decided against it. A couple of hours later the rest of the group was allowed to proceed as long as they avoided the main highway; it was getting dark and the obvious objective of the army was to keep the event as low

key as possible with as little public attention as possible.

The group spent the night as guest of a bedouin camp and encountered problems in the morning. The army wanted the peace "marchers" to "take a taxi" again, the monks took on notice of the army order and proceeded. The army did not stop them but confiscated their banner, which said: "Peace pilgrimage to Jerusalem". The rest of the group followed in vehicles to a point 10 kilometres further — "we realised that our refusal to comply would have meant harm for our bedouin hosts," Ms. Marlene Smith, another member, explained.

The march was resumed after the ride, and the group went all the way to the Mount of Olives and occupied Jerusalem and the religious and historic sites there, including Al Aqsa Mosque, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the Western Wall. At all these sites the Buddhist monks, carrying an urn containing religious relics, offered their traditional prayer for peace much to the discomfort of Jews at the wall, according to Ms. Kelly.

"However, it was really moving to see people of one faith paying their respect to all other faiths in all sincerity and honesty," she said.

Terasawa, who acquired fame as the lone monk who beat the "drums of peace" in front of the American Embassy in Baghdad for days in the run-up to the Gulf war in January, and his comrades

also went around the streets of Jerusalem chanting and beating drums.

"Many onlookers were apparently amused at the sight," Ms. Kelly recalled. "But many also understood that it was a message of peace."

At one point, though, Terasawa, the senior-most of the monks, was "briefly detained" by Israeli security forces, Ms. Kelly added.

Although, in the final analysis, the Israeli authorities appeared to have achieved their objective of keeping the march away from the peace camp — as was evident in the almost negligible coverage the event got in the international press — the peace activists are now in Amman with a better insight into how Palestinian life is like in the occupied territories after visiting villages and meeting with people there.

"We are aware that the treatment that the Israeli army gave us was only minimal compared with the restrictions imposed on the Palestinian people," Ms. Kelly said.

"We will now try to focus as much international attention as possible on the Israeli measures against the Palestinians and emphasise the need to protect the people living in the occupied territories," Ms. Kelly pledged.

"The arbitrary actions of the Israeli authorities have gone too far for the international community to keep silent anymore. It is time everyone spoke out and sought to do something about it."

## EC visit to Iran boosts relations

LUXEMBOURG (R) — Luxembourg Foreign Minister Jacques Poos said Thursday that a European Community (EC) mission to Iran had been a "profitable investment" that could lead to renewed economic ties and an EC diplomatic presence in Tehran.

"Iran would like Europe to play a bigger role in the Gulf region," Mr. Poos said at a news conference on his return. "It is eager to foster economic links."

European Commissioner Abel Matutes will go to Iran soon to discuss reinstating an economic accord suspended over the U.S. hostage crisis and have talks on

the possibility of the EC opening an office in Tehran, he said. Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati earlier described the visit as "a long and positive stride in relations between the EC and Iran."

Mr. Poos and the foreign ministers of Italy and the Netherlands, representing the current, last and next holders of the EC's rotating presidency, also discussed with President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani prospects for a long-term peace in the Gulf.

The Iranians are extremely worried about the rebellion of Kurdish and Shi'ite rebels in Iraq,

Mr. Poos said. "They underlined that the internal situation is disastrous and that we're witnessing a certain 'Lebanonisation' of their neighbour," he said.

"The Iranians proposed contacting all the anti-Saddam factions outside (Iraq) who are trying to organise themselves," Mr. Poos said. He did not say what the EC response had been.

Iran wanted to push for elections in Iraq and expected 80 per cent of the population to vote against the government of President Saddam Hussein if a poll took place, he said.

## Saudi delays hold up fire gear

KUWAIT (R) — Delays at the Saudi border are holding up shipments of heavy equipment vital for putting out more than 500 blazing Kuwaiti oil wells, according to an U.S. oil industry official.

"The Saudi Arabian's haven't been all that helpful in clearing the transference through customs of equipment," Larry Flak, coordinator of fire-fighting for the Kuwait Oil Company, said.

Mr. Flak is coordinating the work of three U.S. firms battling to extinguish more than 500 oil wells set ablaze during the Gulf war. No fires have yet been put out because of lack of equipment and water.

The U.S. fire-fighters had so far capped 19 wells, which were gushing but not on fire, Mr. Flak said. He said 600 wells had been blown up in the war but about 80 were not on fire.

"Fire-fighters would probably be able to tackle the first fire next week when engineers were expected to complete a pipeline bringing water from the sea," Mr. Flak said.

"They're very, very close to finishing it (the pipeline). We'll just have water to some limited

areas but that will allow us to start working on wells that are burning," he said.

The Kuwaiti government said on Thursday that an Iranian delegation had met Kuwait's oil minister to discuss a role in fighting the oil fires.

"The minister of oil, Dr. Rashid Salem Al Ameri, recently received a high-ranking delegation from the Republic of Iran," said a statement broadcast on Kuwait radio.

"They discussed the possibilities of coordinating (assistance) to fighting the burning wells," it said.

The minister also received delegations from China and Britain, the statement said. It gave no further details.

Mr. Flak told reporters many people were seeking fire-fighting contracts, including Iranians, Romanians, Russians and Chinese.

He was not aware that any had yet been awarded contracts.

Mr. Flak said that before the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait it was possible to get equipment needed for an emergency from Saudi Arabia into Kuwait in 24 hours. "You can't do that any more. It

takes seven to 10 days to do it," he said, adding that was the time needed to prepare the paperwork and to get the equipment through customs.

Two convoys of heavy equipment, such as bulldozers and cranes, were held up at the Saudi border Thursday, he said. One had been there four days and the other five.

Western diplomats have also spoken of long delays at the Saudi border. One said recently that a 52-vehicle convoy for the oil fields had passed through at the rate of eight to 10 vehicles a day.

Mr. Flak said there was very little heavy equipment in Kuwait. Most had been destroyed.

About 200 fire-fighters and support staff had arrived in Kuwait and the total number of reconstruction workers was expected to grow to 3,000, he said.

The Kuwaiti government stated said Kuwait would give priority to capping wells creating huge lakes of oil on land.

"Efforts are under way to contain the pools of oil by directing oil through trenches into a basin. From the basin, the oil will be pumped into containers (and) will be used again," it said.

## Long-divided Beirut crawls back to life

By Diana Abdallah  
Reuters

BEIRUT — From the air Beirut still looks like its wartime self — rundown buildings and bomb-pocked roads clogged with chaotic traffic and armed men at checkpoints.

But up close it is clear the city, divided and wrecked by 16 years of civil war, has changed a lot in recent months.

Workers are busy repairing homes and shops and building new ones. The gunmen have been replaced by proper soldiers.

The wild driving will probably never change but now traffic police in smart grey uniforms and new white gloves are trying to restore some order on the streets of Beirut.

The tough-looking men who ruled their neighbourhoods and defended them for years with their militia weapons have retreated. Some can now be seen, selling cigarettes at the roadside.

At taxi-driver pointed to two men behind a table filled with cartons of cigarettes. "They were the thugs of my street who terrorised everybody for years," he

said with obvious contempt.

Many Beirut residents seem to be in a daze, not quite sure that the terrors of civil war are over — at least for now.

They find pride in referring to their capital as "greater Beirut" — instead of the west and east which had been divided since April 13, 1975, when the war began.

On the orders of the government, thousands of regular troops were deployed across Beirut last December to reunite a city free of militias for the first time in the civil war.

Bulldozers cleared barricades and thousands of mines, and roads on the green line battle zone running through the heart of the city were opened to the public for the first time in many years.

Scores of abandoned neighbourhoods on the 12-kilometres frontline look as if they have been struck by earthquakes.

Every apartment block, house and shop is wrecked and bullet-riddled. Sandbagged bunkers remain, as well as painted graffiti and tattered posters showing which groups held each area as the war ebbed and flowed.

Wild trees have grown up amid the debris. Some apartment buildings still have faded canvas sun awnings rolled out over balconies, abandoned by families with no time even to close their front doors in the chaos of street battles.

Many Lebanese rejoice that they can now drive anywhere without being stopped by militia-men quizzing them about their sect or political sympathies.

"I don't even know where I am. I don't remember what these areas looked like before the war," said 30-year-old Hala Hamade on a tour of the ruins with a group of friends.

At weekends, many older Lebanese take their children and cameras to the devastated downtown area to recapture memories of where they lived and worked before the war.

Some poor families quickly moved back to their old homes, patching up broken windows with plastic bags and putting out flowers on window sills, but lacking water and sewerage.

Children in torn and dirty clothes play in the rubble. Lebanese soldiers warn people

away from narrow alleys because many of the mines and booby-traps have yet to be defused.

Away from the ruined downtown, sparkling neon lights shine at night from restaurants and nightclubs whose owners say business was never so good. Lebanese are once again flocking to the cinema instead of watching poor quality videotapes.

But some of the problems of war remain.

The telephone service is getting better, but Beirut has only six hours of electricity in every 24.

The sound of private power generators sends a deafening roar across the city. Water trickles from taps only two hours every three days.

Piles of rotten garbage litter the streets, feeding hordes of cats, dogs and rats.

The only violent crackdown these days is against rabid dogs. Police with hunting rifles shoot dead hundreds of stray dogs in the streets of Beirut each night.

During the war dogs lived and bred in the green line ruins. Now bulldozers and troops have driven them out into populated districts.

## Aspin

(Continued from page 1)

of U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 and the exchange of land for peace.

Mr. Lawzi told Mr. Aspin that the Arab and Islamic countries were awaiting moves to solve the Middle East issues.

Mr. Aspin also held a meeting with Lower House Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat with whom he reviewed developments in the Palestine problem.

With reference to the Gulf, Mr. Arabiyat called on the world community to help Iraq begin reconstruction and to secure food supplies for its people. He said the new world order should not be made to usher in a new colonial era to the region.

## Baker

(Continued from page 1)

the prospects for movement towards peace have been enhanced by the success of the U.S.-led allied coalition in the Gulf war. At the same time, he has acknowledged that the window of opportunity opened by the Gulf situation probably will be of only limited duration.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### PRAYER TIMES

03:55 ..... Fajr  
06:14 ..... (Sunrise) Duha  
11:38 ..... Dhuhur  
15:12 ..... 'Asr  
18:02 ..... Maghrib  
19:21 ..... 'Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Smeilsh. Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 625785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 625541  
Anglican Church Tel. 625363. Tel.

628543. Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.  
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.  
Armenian International Church Tel. 685326.  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295.  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654932.

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.  
It will be partly cloudy and relatively cold with possible scattered showers. Winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Amman, it will be partly cloudy with northerly moderate winds and calm

seas.  
Min./max. temp.  
Amman ..... 7/16  
Aqaba ..... 16/27  
Deserts ..... 8/19  
Jordan Valley ..... 15/25

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 16, Aqaba 27. Humidity readings: Amman 39 per cent, Aqaba 27 per cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY  
AMMAN:  
Dr. Isam Hawamdeh ..... 624830  
Dr. Mohammad Al Sawwa ..... 732556  
Dr. Muneer Al Qasbi ..... 770258

Dr. Khalidoun Khouf ..... 836019  
Firas pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdous pharmacy ..... 778336  
Al Asma pharmacy ..... 637055  
Nasroukh pharmacy ..... 626762  
Al Salam pharmacy ..... 644945  
Yaecub pharmacy ..... 637660  
SHUNCAI pharmacy ..... 637660  
IBRID:  
Dr. Mohammad Khalil ..... (—)  
Al Sharrar pharmacy ..... (275825)  
ZARQA:  
Dr. Khamis Al Ja'bani ..... (—)  
Khalifah pharmacy ..... 985417

FOOD CONTROL CENTRE ..... 637111  
Civil Defence Centre ..... 661111

Civil Defence Immediate Response ..... 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency ..... 199  
Rescue Police ..... 192, 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade ..... 891228  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 864390  
Public Security Department ..... 630321  
Hotel Complaints ..... 605800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage Complaints ..... 897467  
Amman Municipality Complaints ..... 787111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) ..... 121  
Overseas Calls ..... 010230  
Central Amman Telephone Repairs ..... 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs ..... 661101  
Jordan Television ..... 773111

Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 690100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615  
Electric Power Company ..... 636381  
RJ Flight Information ..... 08-53200  
Queen Aia Int. Airport ..... 08-53200  
HOSPITALS  
AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 818131/32  
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. .... 642816  
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. .... 642412  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642362  
Malhas, J. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shamsani ..... 6641714  
Sumeiani Hospital ..... 669131  
Al-Muasher Hospital ..... 845845  
University Hospital ..... 6672279  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 666127/57  
Al-Abil, Abdali ..... 6641646

Ishana, Al-Muhajreen ..... 777101/5  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 75111/26  
Army, Marfa ..... 891611/5  
Queen Aia Hospital ..... 602240/50  
Amal Hospital ..... 674155  
ZARQA:  
Zarga Govt. Hospital ..... (09)983323  
Zarga National Hospital ..... (09)991071  
Ibn Sina Hospital ..... (09)986732  
IBRID:  
Princess Basma Hospital ..... (02)275555  
Great Catholic Hospital ..... (02)272275  
Ibn Al-Nafies Hospital ..... (02)247100  
AQABA:  
Princess Haya Hospital ..... (03)314111

### MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.  
Apple ..... 850 / 700  
Banana ..... 300 / 450  
Banana (Mukammal) ..... 450 / 400

Beans ..... 680 / 600  
Cabbage ..... 140 / 100  
Carrot ..... 180 / 120  
Cauliflower ..... 140 / 100  
Cucumbers (large) ..... 250 / 200  
Cucumbers (small) ..... 420 / 360  
Dates ..... 1000 / 900  
Eggplant ..... 260 / 200  
Garlic ..... 520 / 400  
Grapefruit ..... 250 / 200  
Lemon ..... 300 / 250  
Lettuce (per one) ..... 150 / 100  
Marrow (large) ..... 250 / 200  
Marrow (small) ..... 480 / 400  
Onion (green) ..... 300 / 250  
Onion (dry) ..... 170 / 100  
Orange ..... 280 / 200  
Pepper (hot) ..... 680 / 600  
Pepper (sweet) ..... 340 / 180  
Potato ..... 200 / 150  
Sage ..... 400 / 300  
Spanish ..... 120 / 80  
Tomatoes ..... 400 / 320



## King attends Friday prayers

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein attended Friday prayers at Aishah Um Al Mouminin Mosque in Amman and listened to a sermon delivered by General Mufti Izzeddine Al Khatib Al Tamimi on the virtues and advantages of fasting.

Also attending the prayers were Their Royal Highnesses Prince Abdullah, Prince Faisal

and Prince Hamzah and Prince Talal Ben Mohammad, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ben Zeid and Prince Ali Ben Nayef. Also joining worshippers were Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, the Waqaf and Islamic affairs minister, the chief Islamic justice and government officials.

## Masri: King's visit to Europe on eve of EC summit important

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein's visits to France and Germany in the past week were very important since they were the first after the Gulf war and come on the eve of a summit meeting by the European Economic Community leaders who plan to discuss the Middle East question among other issues, according to Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri.

"The European summit, due to be held on Monday, will discuss the Middle East question, a topic which was fully reviewed with the leaders of France and Germany during the visit, and will also give attention to the situation in the Gulf in the wake of the Gulf war," the minister said in a statement to Jordan Television.

"The King put forth Jordan's views and political stands vis-a-vis the Middle East issue and the Palestine problem, and it is hoped that the Europeans will appreciate this position at their coming summit," the minister said.

"The visit was part of Jordan's diplomatic efforts which aim at bringing about a just and durable peace to the region based on U.N. Security Council resolutions," he added.

"Jordan's political and geographic position requires from it to be mobile, to move all the time, especially in Europe, which has direct influence on the Middle East and enjoys strong ties with the United States," Mr. Masri

pointed out.

The foreign minister described his own tour of the Maghreb Union countries earlier as successful.

"It had to make the tour of these countries which maintain good ties with Jordan and hold similar views on various issues related to the Middle East region and the Gulf crisis," the minister said.

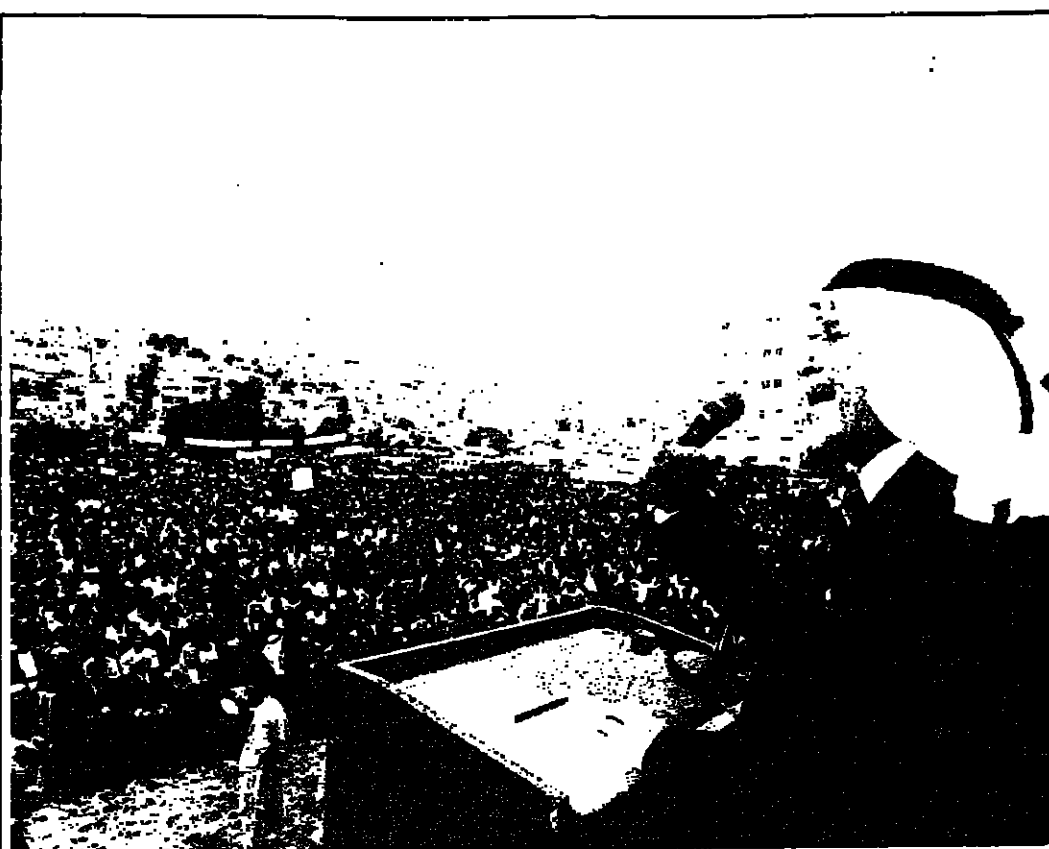
He said that there was no alternative to returning to joint Arab action if the Arabs wished to have a lasting solution to the Palestine problem.

"We hear nowadays that there are plans and ideas about solutions and therefore we have no choice but to restore concerted action among Arab countries to deal with the coming stage," he said.

Referring to the Arab League Council meeting in Cairo, the minister said that it resulted in a concrete result though it was a good chance for discussions among the Arab countries about joint action.

Mr. Masri expressed hope that relations among Arab states would improve in the coming weeks.

With reference to a visit to the United States by the King's Political Advisor Adnan Abu Odeh, Mr. Masri said that it was aimed at following up earlier negotiations and consultations, but was not aimed at achieving specific results.



Muslim Brotherhood Spiritual leader Mohammad Abdelrahman Khalifeh Friday addresses a rally at Mahatta (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

## Speakers condemn Israel and U.S. policies in the area

## 15,000 attend Brotherhood rally

By Nermeen Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

MAHATTA — Nearly 15,000 people, mostly supporters of the Muslim Brotherhood Movement, crowded the football field in this old suburb of Amman to mark the occasion of Fatah Mecca Day (the anniversary of Prophet Mohammad reentering the Holy City after being driven out to the town of Medina earlier on) and to condemn Israeli and U.S. policies in the Middle East.

Banners and speeches by the spiritual leader of the movement and Brotherhood deputies urged the people to speak against the presence of troops belonging to the U.S.-led coalition on Iraqi territories and to reject peaceful proposals to end the Palestine problem. The speakers also condemned a U.N. resolution setting tough terms for a formal Gulf war ceasefire and urged Iraq not to accept it.

Banners denounced U.S. involvement in the region and condemned the U.N. "double standard" in dealing with the region's problems. "No to America, no to the state of the Jews on the land of Palestine, no to the surrender peace plans and no to the proposals of (U.S. President George) Bush," urged Sheikh Humam Sa'id, a Lower House deputy.

"This meeting is to (prove wrong) people and Americans who thought they could bury the will of the people after they were able to manipulate Arab leaders," Sheikh Sa'id told the crowds who chanted God is Greater (Allah Akbar). Sheikh Sa'id did not name any of the Arab leaders whom he attacked in his speech.

Observers and analysts had earlier said that the rally was particularly aimed at reasserting the movement's popularity among the masses and testing their strength in the aftermath of the Gulf war and the Brotherhood's joining the government last January.

The organisers, officials of the Muslim Brotherhood, had said they expected some 50,000 people to attend, roughly half of the turnout at a massive rally held at the peak of the Gulf crisis last October.

The analysts and observers had contended that the Brotherhood, and the Islamic trend generally, had lost ground among traditional supporters following Iraq's military defeat in the Gulf war.

But spokesman for the Brotherhood parliamentary bloc, Deputy Ahmad Qteish Al Azaideh, told the crowds that the rally was held, "to prove that campaigns undermining the movement's popularity are false."

"We do not want popularity for people but a popularity for the ideology of Islam," Mr. Azaideh said in his speech. Participants in Friday's rally came from many parts of the Kingdom, as buses which bailed them to the make-shift stadium indicated the names of various societies based in towns and cities outside Amman.

field's area. Most banners carried the emblem of the Brotherhood.

"Our meeting is a curse on those who thought they have buried the will of the people for years to come," Sheikh Sa'id told the crowd who were segregated by sex. The females' clad in black and white dresses and scarves filed into the field, after the men were seated, holding the hands of their children.

Mr. Abdul Ruhman Khalifa, spiritual leader of the Brotherhood, lashed out at the United Nations and said that it has lost its credibility and respect when it misapplied international law. "The U.N. has been dragged to precipice. It will only regain its power and respect when human rights light the path of the U.N. again," Mr. Khalifa said in his speech.

In large advertisement carried by the Arabic dailies during the past week, the Brotherhood highlighted three slogans for the rally: "No to the elimination of the Palestinian cause," "No to American-Atlantic presence on Iraqi and Gulf soil" and "No to the degrading American conditions on Iraq."

"The Brotherhood condemns the U.N. conditions included in the Resolution (687) (on Iraq) because there is humiliation and surrender in every word of it, betrayal in every line," said Sheikh Sa'id, who is also a mosque preacher.

"We urge Iraq to reject these American terms... reject them and we are with you," he said.

Chants of "Allah Akbar... it is better to die than to live in humiliation" interrupted Sheikh Sa'id and other speeches.

## RJ resumes flights to Saudi Arabia today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Saudi Arabia has officially reopened its airspace to Royal Jordanian (RJ) flights, allowing its planes to land in Saudi Arabia and in the Gulf countries or to fly on to destinations in Southeast Asia and the Far East, according to an announcement by Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Jamal Al Sarairoh.

The minister, who thanked the Saudi Arabian government for this move, said that it constituted a very significant step towards the restoration of strong ties between Amman and Riyadh to safeguard national interests.

Mr. Sarairoh said that the Saudi government officials had displayed constructive response to the ongoing efforts for reviving inter-Arab transport operations "in a manner that reflected the true brotherly spirit of the Saudi leadership."

He expressed hope that the move would further contribute towards safeguarding the interests of Saudi and Jordanian

peoples and promoting transport operations among Arab countries in general.

The minister's statement, late Thursday night, followed a formal announcement by Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national air carrier, that it was resuming its flights to Jeddah and other destinations in Saudi Arabia.

An RJ spokesman said that RJ planes would resume flights to Jeddah as of Saturday, but the airline would later make formal announcements about its flights to Gulf states, the Indian subcontinent and the Far East, in accordance with the original schedule that had been in force before the Gulf crisis.

In the meantime, RJ requested passengers to contact its offices directly to learn about the flights and for further information and reservation.

In February, RJ announced that it was operating limited flights to Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (U.A.E.). RJ flights were to the Gulf and

the east suspended during the Gulf crisis and stopped altogether during the Gulf war, but flights to the west continued.

Last month RJ announced that it had returned to Amman its fleet of aircraft which was temporarily based in Vienna during the Gulf war when flights from Amman were reduced to around two per day while insurance rates of JD 100 on regional flights and JD 167 on international flights were added to all ticket prices.

RJ officials said that they were now involved in making arrangements for restoring previous normal flights to the Gulf states and the east.

Meanwhile, a ban on Jordanian trucks carrying produce and other goods into Saudi Arabia from Jordan remained in force.

About 140,000 Jordanians used to work in Saudi Arabia before the Gulf crisis erupted in August last year, but many were reported to have returned to Jordan since the start of the crisis and the subsequent war.

## Princess Basma tours south

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, Chairperson of Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund's (QAF) Board of Trustees Friday toured a number of villages in Wadi Araba region and met with tribal leaders who briefed her on the situation of people in Kahma, Rishah and Beir Madkour areas.

Princess Basma was also briefed on the kind of urgent assistance needed by the region's citizens to overcome health and nutritional problems.

The Princess voiced appreciation, to the officials in the region, for their efforts to provide basic services to citizens. She called for intensifying national efforts to counter the challenges posed by

the economic situation Jordan is going through.

Princess Basma stressed the importance of providing basic services to people, particularly women and children who are the most vulnerable and the hardest hit by the difficulties local communities are grappling with.

She emphasised the need for mobilising all national capacities and efforts, and redirecting them towards rectifying the difficult economic circumstances Jordan is passing through.

Princess Basma supervised the distribution of 30 tonnes of food stuff, donated by Jordanian citizens to needy people. This amount is the first following a

campaign in a series aimed at raising contributions to help needy families on the occasion of Ramadan.

Princess Basma was accompanied by Aqaba District Officer Qutban Al Majali and senior government officials.

Earlier Princess Basma visited Al Thaghr Centre for Special Education in Aqaba, and discussed with the administrative committee scopes of cooperation between the Al Thaghr Society and QAF.

The Princess donated educational games to the children attending the centre which accommodates 50 disabled children, aged 6-14 years.

## UNICEF worried about health situation in Iraq

By Serene Halasa  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN. — UNICEF officials Thursday warned that the situation in Iraq in the post-war era is deteriorating and appealed to the world community for urgent humanitarian aid to the war-torn country in preparation of what is seen by them as a very bleak future with a potential outbreak of epidemics.

"Our focus during the trip (to Iraq) was to inspect water supplies, sanitation, and health conditions," Raymond Naimy, UNICEF senior water engineer told the Jordan Times. "And all these are in miserable conditions, especially in the south," he added.

Mr. Naimy, who has worked closely for the past seven weeks with the Baghdad Water Authority, said the situation in the outskirts of Baghdad was worse than that inside the capital. He explained that the war against Iraq had rendered the country helpless in facing future problems. "The situation is urgent and serious," he said.

Another key member of UNICEF's Iraq emergency aid team, epidemiologist and regional child survival advisor, Dr. Al-Fateh Al Samani, warned of widespread epidemics, such as cholera, typhoid, and meningitis. He said that many children were dying from diarrhoea because of consuming polluted water.

"Diarrhoea has increased among children up to four times," said Dr. Al Samani. He said that lack of medicine, drinking polluted water and lack of proper food have caused the rate of diarrhoea cases among children to rise. "It is a vicious circle: diarrhoea causes malnutrition,

and malnutrition causes more cases of diarrhoea," he added.

Dr. Al Samani also said that if the situation was not dealt with urgently, the spread of epidemics might affect the whole region, not only Iraq. "One person affected with cholera means that the disease will rapidly spread through contact," Dr. Al Samani said.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Friday said that children in Iraq were dying because of the shortage of drinking water. It also warned of widespread epidemics.

According to an ICRC statement, "diarrhoea among children has dramatically increased, often resulting in death within a few hours."

Dr. Al Samani called for "urgent medical prepositioning, fast mobility of such action, and availability of transport." "This will prepare us and help us in trying to avoid the outbreak of epidemics," Al Samani said.

The two UNICEF experts said that the water and sanitation situation in Iraq was very serious. "In rural areas, where there are no generators, people are getting water from water drains, manholes and trenches. The majority of children, especially in the south, is drinking unclean water. People are filling their buckets with running sewage because there is no other water source," Mr. Naimy said.

He also said that some people were drinking river water that is highly polluted. "This is a serious health hazard because Iraq's river water is endemic," Mr. Naimy added.

Mr. Naimy, who visited Basra, Kut, Ammara, Mosul, Misan, Wasit, Najaf and Karbala, said

that the water sanitation equipment in those areas was not operational. "The situation was bad after the war, and further deteriorated with the start of the rebellion in the south," he said.

"Although the amount of pure clean treated water has increased to seventy per cent in Baghdad, this improvement of the water system should be witnessed throughout Iraq," Mr. Naimy said.

Unfortunately, Iraq is still in dire need of spare parts, chemicals to purify water, and energy required to operate power plants. "Government officials are working hard but nothing can be done when the basic elements are missing," Mr. Naimy said. "It's all one circle, when you don't have fuel you can't operate generators, and without the generators you cannot pump water. It is all linked together and it needs urgent action in all of them," he added.

Another danger looming for the people of Iraq, especially children, is malnutrition. "Children have not gained weight in the past three to four months," Dr. Al Samani said. "I can say we are on the brink of witnessing malnutrition," he added.

"Children's weights are not increasing. It is either the same weight or less with growth, and this is dangerous," Mr. Naimy said. "Malnutrition in children can also affect their mental growth," Dr. Al Samani said, warning that if international support is not given immediately the situation might deteriorate. "Iraq needs support right now not only with medicine, but also food, especially for children," Dr. Al Samani added.

## ICRC appeals for more aid to Iraq

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Amman office of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Friday issued an appeal for more donations and contributions to alleviate the sufferings of the Iraqi people.

An ICRC statement said that the aid already provided was not sufficient to cope with the actual needs and it was hoped that various countries and organisations would act rapidly.

"In addition to the food crisis, ICRC's country-wide surveys reveal a high incidence of child diarrhoea which can cause death within a few hours," said a statement. "Morbidity and mortality rates are seen to be much higher than ever before, and the race against time is speeded up to prevent further deterioration of this situation," the statement added.

The statement said that the

summer heat, as was feared, was now aggravating the health problems brought about by unclean water, and ICRC's ongoing surveys show that more cities are without safe and or sufficient drinking water supplies and poor sanitation conditions.

Nevertheless, the statement said, the ICRC is mobilising more resources to deal with the situation.

The statement said that ICRC convoy number 10 would be leaving Amman Saturday carrying further amounts of food supplies and medicines.

In Iraq, the statement said, distribution of water produced by three mobile purification systems is continuing in hospitals and will be extended to other social institutions. In the suburbs, ten water tankers are supplying six 70,000 litre tanks and water is then distributed to the population.

## Ramadan fair proves successful

By Maha Addasi  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The fair centre near the University of Jordan last Sunday started displaying various Jordanian-made goods at its annual Ramadan fair.

Several Jordanian companies specialising in food, confectionery and Ramadan sweets, chocolates and Easter candies, clothes and wool, shoes and nylon stockings, toys, shampoos and detergents as well as carpets have their products on display.

To the observant eye, the daily turn-out of people at the centre proves that the fair is a great success. "A minimum of 15,000 people come to the fair each week day," Amgad Abed Al Hadi, owner and general manager of the fair centre said. "Many, many more show up at weekends." This is a significant increase from the 12,000 people who used to visit previous fairs, per week day.

All the participants are pleased with the fair because of the marketing opportunities it gives them. "The location of this fair centre makes it accessible to most people," Khalid Kawasmi, a participant at the fair said. "We are gaining many new customers and also selling a great deal of our products here."

Saeed Toware, another participant at the fair specialising in clothing, said that this fair gives his company the opportunity to make a good impression on people. "This is our chance to show

potential customers that we have good quality products," Mr. Toware said. "So we bring out all the best season's clothes that have not even been displayed in our stores."

Some customers are also pleased with the idea of holding a fair specialising in displaying Ramadan related items. "Now we could buy everything related to Ramadan at one time from one place," Fatima Mohammad said. "I even bought clothes, here, for my young children for Eid."

Prices of the products displayed have been reduced for the fair, with discounts ranging from 10 per cent to 30 per cent and more.

"I bought this shirt for five and a half dinars from the fair," Hamed Hussein said. "This shirt," he added pointing to the shirt he is wearing, "is from the same make and I paid eight dinars for it."

Abed Al Hadi said that the fair centre specialised in displaying Jordanian products with the purpose of increasing people's awareness to these products.

"After the Gulf crisis many markets have been closed to Jordanian products, Abed Al Hadi said. "This is why we must support all nationally made products even more than before."

The fair, which is open daily from noon till 4 p.m. and from 7 p.m. till 1 a.m. will be open until April 14.

On May 23 another all-Jordanian exhibition will put on display Jordanian designed clothing.

## Needy groups to be provided funds for small-size projects

AMMAN (J.T.) — The newly founded Development and Employment Fund (DEF) has granted needy individuals and societies JD 200,000 in loans to help them start small or medium-size businesses that can give employment to job-seekers and increase production.

The announcement was made by the fund's Director General Abdul Ilah Abu Ayyash, who said that the loans were being provided for the needy groups through societies helping the poor earn their own living.

The fund, established by a government decision during the Gulf crisis to help find employment for job-seekers and open the way for needy groups to earn a living, is being managed by the Industrial Development Bank (IDB), said Abu Ayyash in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Friday.

Abu Ayyash said that the fund aimed at offering help to poor families whose total monthly income does not exceed JD 120 and who number seven people on average.

He said that priority in granting loans for projects goes to those families living in "abject poverty or under the poverty line because they are the most needy people."

"Also priority is given to heads of families who are currently unemployed and who have acquired vocational training or special trades, those who own small-size projects, and are in need of help, and those who are working for others in a productive scheme and wish to start similar schemes on their own," Abu Ayyash added.

The fund offers loans to small productive projects in the fields of agriculture, processing agricultural products, handicrafts and productive services," Abu Ayyash said.

With regard to the terms required for individuals to obtain the fund's loans, Abu Ayyash said that individuals could get loans through accredited societies and can receive up to JD 2,000, provided that the total capital of the project does not exceed JD 2,500.

Abu Ayyash said that individuals could get loans ranging between JD 2,000 and JD 4,000, directly from the fund, for projects not exceeding JD 5,000 in total capital.

He said that all those wishing to obtain loans from the DEF should first present applications for agricultural, handicraft and productive services projects, and must undertake to pay back the loans over a seven-year period of time, with a grace period ranging between six months to two years. They also should settle the dues by monthly instalments and, in the case of failure, a one per cent annual interest is added to the loan.

Abu Ayyash said that a potential beneficiary could obtain a loan after presenting a guarantee, like evidence of real estate or through another party, to ensure that he pays back the loan.

The fund studies the projects and later follows up various stages of its implementation while the accredited society, through which the loan has been granted, will submit reports to DEF on the progress of work.



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The Philadelphia



By Kamel S. Abu Jaber

# Jordan Times

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View from Amman

## The order is there, the question is how to respond

THE world that emerged from the ashes of the Second World War had a number of characteristics that distinguished it from any other era in human history. In trying to identify its major features we are hoping to throw some light on what is taking place in our lives now, as well as attempting to take a look into the future. It is because we rarely plan for ourselves that the future seems to constantly surprise, even startle us. It is in order to survive that we must stop fighting the battles of yesterday and begin to understand our present as we anticipate the future.

The period between 1945 and 1989 is not only a very short one in historical terms but a very unique one as well. Until Soviet President Michael Gorbachev met with U.S. President George Bush in Helsinki at the end of 1989, the period's major characteristic was its recognisable dominance by the two superpowers: The Soviet Union and the United States. These two powers, each leading a bloc of nations, and each forming its own military alliance, constituted the major weight in international politics around which lesser satellites revolved. The military arm of the Western bloc, termed the "free world" was the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, NATO; while the military arm of the "East" was the Warsaw Pact alliance. Towards the end of the period, in 1990, and in a step unparalleled in history, one of the two military structures, the Warsaw Pact alliance, dissolved itself leaving the world, perhaps for the first time in recorded history, with only one superpower on the international level. This step was the more unusual in that the Soviet Union did not seem to gain any ostensible advantage from it.

But, for a period of forty-five years, a spirit of adversity and intense competition dominated international politics. President Nikita Khrushchev in the middle of the sixties vowed that within

two decades the Soviet Union would "bury" the United States and the competition. The United States, on the other hand vilified the Communist system as inhuman and tyrannical with one U.S. president, Mr. Ronald Reagan, calling it the kingdom of "evil."

Without a military confrontation between the two superpowers, one withdrew from the scene: certainly not defeated on the battlefield but just as certainly losing the competition to the other side. The event is of momentous historical significance not only for the two previously belligerent nations but for the rest of humanity as well. It raises several questions that seem thus far to have no answers. Does this mean that the bipolar world now dominated by the United States is here to stay and forever?

In posing this question we should remember that one of the most important features of the twentieth century is the introduction of the idea and practice of planning in the business of government. Planning not only domestically but beyond one's frontiers as well. Previously, nations were born, flourished and then withered away in a cyclical fashion. This cyclicalism, recognised by the great Arab intellectual Ibn Khaldun, its philosophic implications explicated in his volume *Al-Muqaddimah*, the introduction, was later picked up and elaborated upon by the German philosopher Hegel and then by Karl Marx. It is ironic that in Marx' historical dialectic there is a prediction for the "withering away" of the state and that it was the Marxist state in the Soviet Union that was first to wither away. More ironic is that an American intellectual of Japanese descent, Francis Fukuyama, was later to elaborate a theory for what he calls: "The End of history."

Neither Ibn Khaldun, Hegel nor Marx foretold the effects of planning on the lives of states. With planning it would seem that nations take charge and control of their history and thus need not "wither away" or be relegated to oblivion. The notion of state planning, also ironically, an introduction of Marxism, was picked up and indeed perfected by the West and others.

The United States, by its own literature, political and otherwise, is an empire builder; an empire that expanded from the original thirteen colonies on the east coast of North America to engulf the entire continental United States into one nation. From there, it expanded further west to include the islands of Hawaii and north to include Alaska. Its influence on the Americas, north to include Canada and south to include all of the continent of Latin America, is not only great but direct too. Right from the beginning the United States viewed itself as a nation destined to lead; and though its leadership was hesitant in the nineteenth century, from its Barbary Wars of 1812 on, it was definite with an ever expanding notion as to where its frontiers of security lie. The eighteenth century Monroe Doctrine expanded later in the last century to the belief in America's Manifest Destiny, which though a vague notion, carried within it the idea of a special international role for the young nation.

It is from this vantage point that today's American notion of a new world order should be viewed. The eminent French intellectual Alexis De Toqueville wrote of the special role and future of the United States in 1931; a prediction based on the American popular understanding of their special mission in the world. And though we may argue with this understanding, it has become, and especially in the wake of the collapse of any other alternative, a reality with which we must deal.

## Time to end slumber

MANY Jordanian expatriates who spent most of their lives in the Gulf are preparing to move elsewhere. Some because of the new atmosphere of hostility towards them brought about by the Gulf war, and some because they feel their children deserve a better place for their future. We would have expected that the majority of these people would come back to Jordan, but that is apparently not the case. While many Jordanians will certainly return, those with financial assets or skills are being lured to far away places like Australia and Canada. Lacking in population but abundant in resources those two countries, among others, are offering refuge or citizenship to people with capital or those with management and technical skills. A good number of Jordanian expatriates falls in this category. After 20 or 30 years in the Gulf, many would have built up savings that enable them to have a good start in new places. They have educated their children at top universities and colleges in Europe and North America; some in Eastern Europe. Those skilled young people are probably more than welcome in Canada and Australia and other countries. They will provide their parents with the passport to migrate as well. But why should those people shun their own country? Because, according to some of them, the benefits outweigh the nostalgia and the belonging. If they could live like aliens for most of their lives in a "brotherly" society, they could certainly live as well in other advanced and democratic societies. Besides, they contend, Jordan is neither an ideal place for investment nor is it that capable of providing their children with the jobs, opportunities and life that are attainable in developed countries. They point at Jordanian bureaucracy as one main impediment to their future plans here. "It complicates your life," more than one of them told this newspaper recently. And it is unfortunately true. Jordan has realised this fact for sometime now. Right at the beginning of the 1980s, for instance, a royal commission was set up to reform public service. But that commission seems to have fallen short of performing its task. Furthermore, parliament, on which people had pinned much hope, has failed to put any pressure on the government to upgrade and modernise its public services. Instead deputies wanted, even desired, to burden the system with more civil servants and bureaucracy.

It is still not too late to change the picture, provided work on improvements start earnestly and promptly. Thousands of our people, with sizeable savings, and thousands of skilled and trained people could be lost for the first world, a world we accuse of being ironically one of the main sources for our underdevelopment. We can only wonder whether the time is not ripe to end our slumber and start thinking seriously about our own problems and our children's future.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily Friday accused the U.N. Security Council of persecuting Iraq in violation of the articles of the United Nations charter by imposing on it impossible measures and forcing it to demarcate its border with Kuwait and other countries. The paper said that the Security Council at the same time is rewarding Israel for its occupation of Arab lands in Palestine by condoning its actions and allowing it to retain its mass destruction weapons with which it can destroy Arab countries as has been proved in the past four decades. The paper said that the Security Council, which is imposing on Iraq very humiliating conditions so that the ceasefire can become official, is demanding that Iraq dispose of all its mass destruction weapons which Baghdad never used, so that it can become defenceless and exposed to its enemies attacks at any time. The Security Council is taking unprecedented steps in violation of all principles and international laws and enabling the aggressors to consolidate their hold over Arab destiny, said the paper. It said that the world community is indeed facing a very grim future, given the present behaviour of the superpowers which are imposing their hegemony on the smaller nations; and is bound to witness further acts of violence and more wars in the years to come.

A columnist in Sawt Al Shaab daily criticises those responsible for the current wave of soaring prices during the month of Ramadan and urges parliament deputies to stop making speeches or addressing press conferences, and to get down to discussing problems with direct impact on people's lives. Salameh Ekour notes that the masses of people have been complaining over the sudden rise in prices of fruits, vegetables and other commodities during Ramadan while the concerned authorities are doing nothing and parliament members are busying themselves with lectures, speeches and seminars or public rallies. It has been established as a fact more than 40 per cent of the population lives under the poverty line but parliament members who had pledged in their election campaigns to serve the people's interests are keeping silent about this phenomenon and about the onslaught of merchants and commissioners who are making people's lives even more miserable, the writer notes. Now that parliament members are living in comfort, they are ignoring the basic needs of the people who elected them to parliament, and are not going down to the shops and the markets to see for themselves the injustice, or caring to raise the matter with the concerned authorities, says Ekour. The writer calls on members of the public to refrain from attending parliament members' lectures and seminars, and to stop taking part in rallies and demonstrations that raise national slogans, so that parliament members can have time to deal with more pressing problems of direct impact on their lives.

## Report

(Continued from page 1)

population from the commercial and cultural centre of Palestinian life. This also restricts travel between the north and south of the West Bank, and between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Furthermore, all Palestinians working inside Israel must obtain a special pass. Both work permits and travel passes, however, are granted for limited time periods, usually only a few weeks, and only for specific purposes. They are also extremely difficult to obtain. Even then, valid passes are no guarantee of free passage. Everyday hundreds of Palestinians are turned back at checkpoints for no apparent reason.

The rhythm of life in the West Bank and Gaza Strip is now severely disrupted by this pass system. Rather than operating according to clearly specified regulations, the system is based on a completely arbitrary devolution of power. It is administered by individual soldiers staffing numerous checkpoints located throughout the occupied territories.

Soldiers decide on a day-by-day and case-by-case basis which Palestinians will or will not be allowed to pass through the roadblocks. Junior-ranking soldiers have the authority to prevent even doctors and patients from reaching hospitals either to carry out their duties or to receive treatment.

The damage to Palestinian society as a result of the curfew and newly-instituted pass system is staggering. The following is a breakdown of the damage by sector:

### Economic sector

The West Bank and Gaza Strip are experiencing their most serious economic recession since 1968. Total curfew-related losses are estimated at \$289 million and represent nearly 17 per cent of the occupied territories GNP (Gross National Product).

Unemployment has soared to an unprecedented 50 per cent of the entire Palestinian working population. Over 150,000 workers and their families are currently without any means of support. The level of destitution is approaching crisis proportions. Approximately 12 per cent of the families in several West Bank villages are below subsistence levels. This represents a doubling of the figure reported just three weeks ago.

The Israeli authorities have announced that less than 50 per cent of the 110,000 Palestinians previously dependent upon Israeli jobs will be granted new work permits. Given the catastrophic state of the Palestinian economy, it is unlikely that those denied access to the Israeli labour market, numbering about 60,000, will find employment in the occupied territories.

The normal pattern of supply and demand in the labour market has been replaced by a quota system. Work permits are now allocated on a regional basis. To date, the distribution of work permits has been highly discriminatory. A number of villages and refugee camps in the West Bank have been completely bypassed. In Nahallin, for example, no permits have been granted to the villages' more than 350 workers. The denial of income to entire communities represents a new and extremely harsh form of collective punishment.

The drop in consumer demand precipitated by the mass unemployment has severely constricted the economy and its productive sectors. Economists estimate that

an infusion of at least \$130 million is necessary in order to begin the recovery process and prevent the total collapse of the occupied territories' social, educational and welfare sectors.

### Medical sector

The economic crisis is severely jeopardising the provision of medical care in the occupied territories. Hospitals and clinics are reporting 80-100 per cent increases in the number of hardship cases. Health workers estimate that approximately 40 per cent of all patients are unable to pay for medical care.

Malnutrition levels have increased by 30 per cent primarily as a result of changes in the consumption patterns of destitute families. Meat consumption has dropped by 80 per cent in some villages while reliance on rice has increased by as much as 250 per cent.

The incidents of stress-related diseases have increased dramatically during the curfew. Doctors report a 37 per cent rise in the number of diabetic cases and a 30 per cent increase in the number of heart attacks. Furthermore, as a result of severe shortages in income, many families are unable to purchase heating oil. There are a number of documented cases where infants have developed hypothermia due to inadequate heating.

The pass system has seriously restricted access to medical care. All medical personnel travelling either into or through Jerusalem require passes. In addition, all patients needing treatment in one of Jerusalem's major referral hospitals must obtain a permit.

During curfew medical staff still need special permits to travel about. Since each district requires its own special permit, doctors must obtain a variety of different passes from different authorities in order to see their patients.

Palestinians requiring daily out-patient treatment are especially hard hit. For example, at Augusta Victoria, the major hospital serving the West Bank's refugee population, only 9 out of 40 regular day patients were able to enter Jerusalem last Friday. Patients suffering from a variety of serious medical complications, including diabetes, were prevented from receiving crucial care.

### Education sector

Educators warn that large portions of this year's curriculum will have to be retaught as a result of curfew-related closures and the continuing interruptions stemming from the new pass system. Equally important, many primary students are failing to acquire basic skills including literacy and numeracy.

These developments are particularly distressing given that schools in the West Bank and Gaza Strip have been repeatedly closed during the last three years. Since 1987 a majority of students have not completed a full year of regular study.

Despite the gravity of the educational crisis, however, Israeli authorities have refused requests by headmasters to extend the current school year beyond the scheduled date for summer closure (late May/early June).

In addition, the economic crisis has seriously affected private schools, many of which are facing shutdown due to inadequate funding. Financially strapped parents are no longer able to afford tuition, further constraining school budgets.

The pass system is an additional obstacle to the normal functioning of schools in the occupied territories, especially those in the

Jerusalem area. At one private school in East Jerusalem, 50 per cent of the staff require passes in order to reach work. Since most teachers are prevented from bringing their cars into East Jerusalem, the school is forced to provide transportation for teachers living outside the city. Separate passes are required for the school's vehicles and drivers, as well as for the majority of its students. In order to properly operate, this school needs five different types of passes issued separately by two different authorities.

Four Palestinian universities are now well into the fourth year of military ordered closure. On Feb. 28, 1991, Al Najah National University, Birzeit University, Hebron University and Gaza Islamic University were issued new orders closing the institutions for another 3 months. Bethlehem and Al Quds Universities, while not closed, have been seriously affected by the isolation of East Jerusalem, which prevents staff and students from reaching classes.

### Religious freedom

The restricted access to Jerusalem for Palestinians from the occupied territories is severely limiting their freedom of worship. To date most Palestinians under the age of 30 have been denied access to the city. At this time the Muslim holy month of Ramadan and the Christian festival of Easter coincide and are currently being celebrated. For Muslims it is important to be able to worship at the Al Aqsa Mosque, Islam's third holiest site, particularly on the Lailat Al-Qadr, the Night of Majesty, on the 27th day of Ramadan, marking the revelation of the Quran to the Prophet Muhammad. Muslims spend the night reading the Quran and praying. For Christians, access to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in the Old City is important as this is the focus of the Easter celebrations.

### International law

The length and severity of the current restrictions are unprecedented. Their imposition is a direct violation of all international regulations governing the conduct of an occupying power, including the 1907 Hague Regulations, the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the 1977 Geneva Protocols. Both the curfew and newly instituted pass system raise serious questions about the ability of Israel to humanely govern the occupied territories.

In response to the rapidly deteriorating situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, CCINGO calls upon the signatories of the Conventions and Protocols to demand that Israel immediately remove all restrictions on movement. CCINGO also calls upon the international community to uphold and protect the rights of everyone living under their jurisdiction, including the 1.7 million Palestinian residents of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Like their Israeli neighbours, these Palestinians are guaranteed the right to support a family, the right to medical care, the right to education and the right to worship by international law. By openly violating these rights, Israel is infringing clearly international standards of just and civilised behaviour.

### Signatories

Middle East Council of Churches/  
Ecumenical Relief Service  
Protestant Universal  
Near East Foundation/Jordan

Evangelical Relief Pool  
World Vision  
Pontifical Mission for Palestine  
Mennonite Central Committee  
International Rescue Committee  
Care International  
American Friends Service Committee  
Canadian Friends Service Committee  
Quaker Peace and Service (London)  
Adventist Development and Relief Agency

CCINGO is an ad hoc committee of international NGOs working with local Palestinian organisations in the occupied territories and reflecting NGO concern in the current emergency.

## Erbil

(Continued from page 1)  
different groups had taken part in the insurgency. Besides the presence of the Kurdish Democratic Party and the Communist Party, there were writings on the walls that showed the Kurdish Socialist Party and Islamic organisations. One slogan on a wall read: "Hijab is the protector of women," and "Islamic Kurdistan."

The executive council of Kurdistan building was also destroyed. A local government spokesman Adel Butros Qiryas confirmed outside the large and modern buildings that different groups had indeed taken part in the insurgency. As he spoke, an American jet flew above.

One Ba'ath Party member said that he had to go into hiding from the rebels, adding that they had threatened his son's life. "For 20 days I was hiding in the fields," he said.

"Most of the insurgents came from outside the country, mostly from Iran. Mr. Qiryas contended, adding that they had killed residents, but said he did not have a number on casualties.

Republican Guards, who appeared defiant and tough, told reporters that the quelling of the insurgency "was easy and took no time."

"When they heard that Kirkuk had been recaptured by us, they fled to the mountains," said an officer, who said that Erbil was empty of soldiers when the rebels occupied the city.

"We were in the south quelling the riots there. We were in Karbala, then Kirkuk then we came here," he added proudly.

The same Republican Guard said that much of the Kurdish rebels were based in the ancient castle that overlooks the centre of Erbil and that fighting had taken place there. However, there did not seem to be much damage inflicted on the castle, which also houses some residents.

Several homes were completely emptied out and the windows broken as Republican Guards stood outside in crowds.

The main government building, where large statues of horses guarded the premises, was damaged. "This building was ambushed by the saboteurs, mostly by Iranians... because we found a picture of Khomeini in there," an officer told the Jordan Times, adding that the employees had been killed by the rebels.

The damage appeared a lot less than that inflicted in the southern provinces, where the rebellion there was quelled by the government forces almost 10 days ago. But bullets and mortar fire could be heard sporadically in the distance.

Journalists were told by the local government spokesman that these shots were long range artillery taking place in the mountains where the rebels had fled.

Four Kurdish rebels, however, were lying dead on a main road near the centre of Erbil.

## Sulaimaniyah

(Continued from page 1)

cities was triggered by fighting between the army and the rebels, and threats by the insurgents against Arabs and Kurds affiliated with the government or the ruling Baath party.

"We were told (by the rebels) that the army was preparing to retaliate against the Kurds..." said Aras Hussein, an employee of a cement factory who fled with his family from Kirkuk 10 days ago, hours before the army retook the city.

But others said that they were forced to leave when the rebels made threats against their lives and their property for their affiliation with the government. "They asked me to leave or else they would burn my car, property and kill me. They did that with many civil servants," said Adel Abdullah, who worked for the government refinery in Kirkuk.

Residents and soldiers said that many Kurds were told by the rebels that the army was disbanded, the central government had collapsed and that the south had risen against Baghdad. "Some people believed these stories and joined them," said one soldier.

But some Kurdish residents of Sulaimaniyah voiced sympathy and support for the rebels. "The Kurdish commands did not hurt civilians," said a young woman sympathiser, who also stressed that the army did not retaliate against the people. Unlike other areas swept by the unrest, there was little graffiti on the walls except for some sketches of Kurdish rebel leader Mustafa Barzani and pro-Communist Party slogans written in English near the entrance of the city.

Residents said the opposition Kurdish groups had rounded up many Baathists and took some away to the hills when they retreated. Baathist officials said that some members were executed, but journalists were not shown any corpses.

An Iraqi physician, however, said he had seen at least 15 corpses and there were many more. Soldiers admitted that some civilians were caught in the cross fire. "Some civilians were fleeing with the rebels and were caught in the cross-fire," said one soldier.

Inside Sulaimaniyah hundreds of refugees from Kirkuk took the patios and the halls of a blue-domed mosque as their home. Women were cooking, children were screaming as miserable and hungry eyes were yearning to return to home. "We fled the fighting. It was heavy in Kirkuk, our homes were shelled," said Salam, a teenage Kurd.

The battle over the oil-rich Kirkuk, according to residents and soldiers, was the crucial turning point in tipping the balance in favour of the Iraqi army.

"Once Kirkuk was liberated, we were confident that battle to control north was in our favour," said a soldier in the Republican Guard.

Residents of Sulaimaniyah and earlier in Erbil said the rebels had started to prepare for their withdrawal once Kirkuk was taken by the army.

The army had since then moved to Erbil, Sulaimaniyah and Zakho, the highway between Kirkuk and Sulaimaniyah was littered with burned army and civilian vehicles. Corpses of soldiers and rebels — four of whom were handcuffed — were still scattered on the side ways.

Kirkuk and Sulaimaniyah and Kirkuk, hundreds of Kurds were walking their way or using old wheel cars back to their homes in Kirkuk and other adjacent towns and villages.

"I have been walking for four days," said a woman. Another family said they have been walking for seven days without enough water or food.

"We send our children to houses to beg for food and water," said a mother of three boys.

Near the main square in Sulaimaniyah many families stopped to rest. Some looked sick while mothers were in pain to keep their hydrated babies quiet.

Iraqi Minister of Trade Mohammad Mahdi Saleh was touring the area with a convoy of trucks of milk, flour and other food supplies which were distributed to the people. "They have vandalised all of the government's food stores," the minister told journalists in front of a burned government warehouse. Kurdish residents of Sulaimaniyah said that aid from Baghdad was badly needed but hoped that there will be a general amnesty for

the rebels. The government has pledged amnesty for deserters.

However, some Kurds said that a general amnesty will encourage everybody, including those who supported the insurgents, to return and will enhance national reconciliation.

Some said that they felt disappointed by the rebels. "They said that they were going to establish a Kurdish state and effect political changes but they have done nothing," said a man who asked not to be named.

## Amnesty

(Continued from page 1)

freezing cold," said a man driving back to Erbil with his family piled into a trailer pulled by a tractor. A trickle of other refugees headed down out of the hills towards their homes, but more appeared to be still heading for the snowy highlands.

The rebels, known as Fesh Merga, still appear to control most of the highlands. Villages within a few kilometres of government-held Erbil were swarming with guerrillas. Erti reported.

Britain and Sweden Thursday pledged a total of \$6.3 million in aid for the refugees and a cargo plane carrying 30 tonnes of tents and blankets left England for Turkey Friday morning.

Germany said four of its air force transport planes would fly humanitarian supply missions to Turkey over the weekend.

German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher in broadcast interviews Friday called for the U.N. Security Council to demand safe return of the Kurds under U.N. supervision.

France sent a jetliner full of humanitarian aid to Turkey Friday afternoon and government officials indicated another would leave for Iran soon.

Italian Foreign Minister Gianni De Michelis indicated that his government would donate several million dollars to aid the refugees.

In Brussels, the ambassadors of the 16 NATO nations condemned "the brutal repression" of the Kurds and discussed possible aid, according to a statement issued there.

The United Nations Security Council discussed a French resolution condemning Iraq's treatment of the Kurds.

U.S. President George Bush has strongly defended his refusal to assist the Iraqi rebels, saying U.S. blood is too precious to be spilled in an Iraqi civil war.

"We're not going to get sucked into this by sending precious American lives into this battle," Mr. Bush said Thursday at a news conference with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu. "We've fulfilled our obligations."

Mr. Bush has found himself on the defensive about why he does not want to assist the overthrowing the Iraqi government.

His answer is a clear demonstration that the spectre of the long, drawn-out U.S. involvement in Vietnam continued to haunt policy-makers even though Mr. Bush has said the Gulf war showed that "we've kicked the Vietnam syndrome."

## Mission

(Continued from page 1)

cerned about the cause of the Kurds because Kurds in Turkey have no right even to mention that they are Kurds or to speak their own Kurdish language in their own homes," Mr. Anbari pointed out.

The draft resolution, promoted by France's acting Ambassador Jean-Marc Rochereau de la Sabliere, condemns the "repression of the Iraqi civilian population... including most recently in Kurdish-populated areas, the consequences of which threaten international peace and security..."

It demands that Iraq "end this repression and engage in an open dialogue to ensure that the human and political rights of the Iraqi citizens are respected."

The draft also insists that Iraq allow immediate access for international organisations to those in need of help in all parts of Iraq.

To win adoption, a resolution must be supported by at least nine of the council's 15 members and avoid a veto by any of the five permanent members, which include the Soviet Union and China as well as the United States, Britain and France.



## Security Council resolution 687

Following is the full text of U.N. Security Council resolution 687:

### The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 660 (1990), 661 (1990), 662 (1990), 664 (1990), 665 (1990), 666 (1990), 667 (1990), 669 (1990), 670 (1990), 674 (1990), 677 (1990), 678 (1990) and 686 (1991),

Welcoming the restoration to Kuwait of its sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity and the return of its legitimate government,

Affirming the commitment of all member states to the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of Kuwait and Iraq, and noting the intention expressed by the member states cooperating with Kuwait under paragraph 2 of resolution 678 (1990) to bring their military presence in Iraq to an end as soon as possible consistent with paragraph 8 of resolution 686 (1991),

Reaffirming the need to be assured of Iraq's peaceful intentions in light of its unlawful invasion and occupation of Kuwait,

Taking note of the letter sent by the foreign minister of Iraq on 27 February 1991 (S/22275) and those sent pursuant to resolution 686 (1991) (S/22273, S/22276, S/22320, S/22321 and S/22330),

Noting that Iraq and Kuwait, as independent sovereign states, signed at Baghdad on 4 October 1963 "Agreed Minutes Regarding the Restoration of Friendly Relations, Recognition and Related Matters," thereby recognising formally the boundary between Iraq and Kuwait and the allocation of islands, which were registered with the United Nations in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter and in which Iraq recognised the independence and complete sovereignty of the state of Kuwait within its borders as specified and accepted in the letter of the prime minister of Iraq dated 21 July 1962, and as accepted by the ruler of Kuwait in his letter dated 10 August 1962,

Conscious of the need for demarcation of the said boundary,

Conscious also of the statements by Iraq threatening to use weapons in violation of its obligations under the Geneva Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925, and of its prior use of chemical weapons and affirming that grave consequences would follow any further use by Iraq of such weapons,

Recalling that Iraq subscribed to the declaration adopted by all states participating in the Conference of States Parties to the 1925 Geneva Protocol and Other Interested States, held at Paris from 7 to 11 January 1989, establishing the objective of universal elimination of chemical and biological weapons,

Recalling further that Iraq has signed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, of 10 April 1972,

Noting the importance of Iraq ratifying this convention,

Noting moreover the importance of all states adhering to this convention and encouraging its forthcoming review conference to reinforce the authority, efficiency and universal scope of the convention,

Stressing the importance of an early conclusion by the Conference on Disarmament of its work on a convention on the Universal Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and of universal adherence thereto,

Aware of the use by Iraq of ballistic missiles in unprovoked attacks and therefore of the need to take specific measures in regard to such missiles located in Iraq,

Concerned by the reports in the hands of member states that Iraq has attempted to acquire materials for a nuclear-weapons programme contrary to its obligations under the treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of 1 July 1968,

Recalling the objective of the establishment of a nuclear-weapons-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Conscious of the threat which all weapons of mass destruction pose to peace and security in the area and of the need to work towards the establishment of a zone free of such weapons,

Conscious also of the objective of achieving balanced and comprehensive control of armaments in the region,

Conscious further of the importance of achieving the objectives noted above using all available means, including a dialogue among the states of the region,

Noting that resolution 686 (1991) marked the lifting of the measures imposed by resolution 661 (1990) in so far as they applied to

### Kuwait,

Noting that despite the progress being made in fulfilling the obligations of resolution 686 (1991), many Kuwaiti and third country nationals are still not accounted for and property remains unreturned,

Recalling the International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, opened for signature at New York on 18 December 1979, which categorises all acts of taking hostages as manifestations of international terrorism,

Deplored threats made by Iraq during the recent conflict to make use of terrorism against targets outside Iraq and the taking of hostages by Iraq,

Taking note with grave concern of the reports of the secretary general of 20 March 1991 (S/22366) and 28 March 1991 (S/22409), and conscious of the necessity to meet urgently the humanitarian needs in Kuwait and Iraq,

Bearing in mind its objective of restoring international peace and security in the area as set out in recent council resolutions,

Conscious of the need to take the following measures acting under Chapter VIII of the Charter,

1. Affirms all 13 resolutions noted above, except as expressly changed below to achieve the goals of this resolution, including a formal cease-fire:

### A

2. Demands that Iraq and Kuwait respect the inviolability of the international boundary and the allocation of islands set out in the "Agreed Minutes Between the State of Kuwait and the Republic of Iraq Regarding the Restoration of Friendly Relations, Recognition and Related Matters," signed by them in the exercise of their sovereignty at Baghdad on 4 October 1963 and registered with the United Nations and published by the United Nations in document 7063, U.N. Treaty Series, 1964;

3. Calls on the secretary general to lend his assistance to make arrangements with Iraq and Kuwait to demarcate the boundary between Iraq and Kuwait, drawing on appropriate material including the map transmitted by Security Council document S/22412 and to report back to the Security Council within one month;

4. Decides to guarantee the inviolability of the above-mentioned international boundary and to take as appropriate all necessary measures to that end in accordance with the Charter.

### B

5. Requests the secretary general, after consulting with Iraq and Kuwait, to submit within three days to the Security Council for its approval a plan for the immediate deployment of a U.N. observer unit to monitor the Khafji area and a demilitarised zone, which is hereby established, extending 10 kilometres into Iraq and 5 kilometres into Kuwait from the boundary referred to in the "Agreed Minutes Between the State of Kuwait and the Republic of Iraq Regarding the Restoration of Friendly Relations, Recognition and Related Matters" of 4 October 1963; to deter violations of the boundary through its presence in and surveillance of the demilitarised zone; to observe any hostile or potentially hostile action mounted from the territory of one state to the other; and for the secretary general to report regularly to the council on the operations of the unit, and immediately

if there are serious violations of the zone or potential threats to peace;

6. Notes that as soon as the secretary general notifies the council of the completion of the deployment of the U.N. observer unit, the conditions will be established for the member states cooperating with Kuwait in accordance with resolution 678 (1990) to bring their military presence in Iraq to an end consistent with resolution 686 (1991);

### C

7. Invites Iraq to reaffirm unconditionally its obligations under the Geneva Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925, and to ratify the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction, of 10 April 1972;

8. Decides that Iraq shall unconditionally accept the destruction, removal, or rendering harmless, under international supervision, of:

(a) all chemical and biological weapons and all stocks of agents and all related subsystems and components and all research, development, support and manufacturing facilities;

(b) all ballistic missiles with a range greater than 150 kilometres and related major parts, and repair and production facilities;

9. Decides, for the implementation of paragraph 8 above, the following:

(a) Iraq shall submit to the secretary general, within 15 days of the adoption of this resolution, a declaration of the locations, amounts and types of all items specified in paragraph 8 and agree to urgent, on-site inspection as specified below;

(b) the secretary general, in consultation with the appropriate government and, where appropriate, with the director general of the World Health Organisation (WHO), within 45 days of the passage of this resolution, shall develop, and submit to the council for approval, a plan calling for the completion of the following acts within 45 days of such approval:

(i) the forming of a special commission, which shall carry out immediate on-site inspection of Iraq's biological, chemical and missile capabilities, based on Iraq's declarations and the designation of any additional locations by the special commission itself;

(ii) the yielding by Iraq of possession to the special commission for destruction, removal or rendering harmless, taking into account the requirements of public safety, of all items specified under paragraph 8 (a) above including items at the additional locations designated by the special commission under paragraph 9 (b) (i) above and the destruction by Iraq, under supervision of the special commission, of all its missile capabilities including launchers as specified under paragraph 8 (b) above;

(iii) the provision by the special commission of the assistance and cooperation to the director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) required in paragraphs 12 and 13 below;

10. Decides that Iraq shall unconditionally undertake not to use, develop, construct or acquire

any of the items specified in paragraphs 8 and 9 above and requests the secretary general, in consultation with the special commission, to develop a plan for the future ongoing monitoring and verification of Iraq's compliance with this paragraph, to be submitted to the council for approval within 120 days of the passage of this resolution;

11. Invites Iraq to reaffirm unconditionally its obligations under the treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, of 1 July 1968;

12. Decides that Iraq shall unconditionally agree not to acquire or develop nuclear weapons or nuclear-weapons-usable material or any subsystems or components or any research, development, support or manufacturing facilities related to the above; to submit to the secretary general and the director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) within 15 days of the adoption of this resolution a declaration of the locations, amounts, and types of all items specified above; to place all of its nuclear-weapons-usable materials under the exclusive control, for custody and removal, of the IAEA, with the assistance and cooperation of the special commission as provided for in the plan of the secretary general discussed in paragraph 9 (b) above; to accept, in accordance with the arrangements provided for in paragraph 13 below, urgent on-site inspection and the destruction, removal, or rendering harmless as appropriate of all items specified above; and to accept the plan discussed in paragraph 13 below for the future ongoing monitoring and verification of its compliance with these undertakings;

13. Requests the director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) through the secretary general, with the assistance and cooperation of the special commission as provided for in the plan of the secretary general in paragraph 9 (b) above, to carry out immediate on-site inspection of Iraq's nuclear capabilities based on Iraq's declarations and the designation of any additional locations by the special commission; to develop a plan for submission to the Security Council within 45 days calling for the destruction, removal, or rendering harmless as appropriate of all items listed in paragraph 12 above; to carry out the plan within 45 days following approval by the Security Council; and to develop a plan, taking into account the rights and obligations of Iraq under the treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, of 1 July 1968, for the future ongoing monitoring and verification of Iraq's compliance with paragraph 12 above, including an inventory of all nuclear material in Iraq subject to the agency's verification and inspection to confirm that IAEA safeguards cover all relevant nuclear activities in Iraq, to be submitted to the council for approval within 120 days of the passage of this resolution;

14. Takes note that the actions to be taken by Iraq in paragraphs 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 of this resolution represent steps towards the goal of establishing in the Middle East a zone free from weapons of mass destruction and all missiles for their delivery and the objective of global ban on chemical weapons;

### D

15. Requests the secretary

general to report to the Security Council on the steps taken to facilitate the return of all Kuwaiti property seized by Iraq, including a list of any property which Kuwait claims has not been returned or which has not been returned intact;

16. Reaffirms that Iraq, without prejudice to the debts and obligations of Iraq arising prior to 2 August 1990, which will be addressed through the normal mechanisms, is liable under international law for any direct loss, damage, including environmental damage and the depletion of natural resources, or injury to foreign governments, nationals and corporations, as a result of Iraq's unlawful invasion and occupation of Kuwait;

17. Decides that all Iraqi statements made since 2 August 1990, repudiating its foreign debt are null and void, and demands that Iraq scrupulously adhere to all of its obligations concerning servicing and repayment of its foreign debt;

18. Decides to create a fund to pay compensation for claims that fall within paragraph 16 above and to establish a commission that will administer the fund;

19. Directs the secretary general to develop and present to the council for decision, no later than 30 days following the adoption of this resolution, recommendations for the fund to meet the requirements for the payment of claims established in accordance with paragraph 18 above and for a programme to implement the decisions in paragraph 16, 17 and 18 above, including: administration of the fund; mechanisms for determining the appropriate level of Iraq's contribution to the fund based on a percentage of the value of the exports of petroleum and petroleum products from Iraq not to exceed a figure to be suggested to the council by the secretary general, taking into account the requirements of the people of Iraq, Iraq's payment capacity as assessed in conjunction with the international financial institutions taking into consideration external debt service, and the needs of the Iraqi economy; arrangements for ensuring that payments are made to the fund; the process by which funds will be allocated and claims paid; appropriate procedures for evaluating losses, listing claims and verifying their validity and resolving disputed claims in respect of Iraq's liability as specified in paragraph 16 above; and the composition of the commission designed above;

20. Decides, effective immediately, that the prohibitions against the sale or supply to Iraq of commodities or products other than medicine and health supplies, and prohibitions against financial transactions related thereto, contained in resolution 661 (1990) shall not apply to foodstuffs notified to the committee established by resolution 661 (1990) or, with the approval of that committee, under the simplified and accelerated "no-objection" procedure, to materials and supplies for essential civilian needs as identified in the report of the secretary general dated 20 March 1991 (S/22366), and in any further findings of humanitarian need by the committee;

21. Decides that the council shall review the provisions of paragraph 20 above every 60 days in light of the policies and prac-

tices of the government of Iraq, including the implementation of all relevant resolutions of the Security Council, for the purpose of determining whether to reduce or lift the prohibitions referred to therein;

22. Decides that upon the approval by the council of the programme called for in paragraph 19 above and upon council agreement that Iraq has completed all actions contemplated in paragraphs 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13 above, the prohibitions against the import of commodities and products originating in Iraq and the prohibitions against financial transactions related thereto contained in resolution 661 (1990) shall have no further force or effect;

23. Decides that, pending action by the council under paragraph 22 above, the committee established under resolution 661 (1990) shall be empowered to approve, when required to assure adequate financial resources on the part of Iraq to carry out the activities under paragraph 20 above, exceptions to the prohibition against the import of commodities and products originating in Iraq;

24. Decides that, in accordance with resolution 661 (1990) and subsequent related resolutions and until a further decision is taken by the council, all states shall continue to prevent the sale or supply, or promotion or facilitation of such sale or supply, to Iraq by their nationals, or from their territories or using their flag vessels or aircraft, of:

(a) arms and related material of all types, specifically including the sale or transfer through other means of all forms of conventional military equipment, including for paramilitary forces, and spare parts and components and their means of production, for such equipment;

(b) items specified and defined in paragraph 8 and paragraph 12 above not otherwise covered above;

(c) technology under licensing or other transfer arrangements used in the production, utilisation or stockpiling of items specified in subparagraphs (a) and (b) above;

(d) personnel or materials for training or technical support services relating to the design, development, manufacture, use, maintenance or support of items specified in subparagraphs (a) and (b) above;

25. Calls upon all states and international organisations to act strictly in accordance with paragraph 24 above, notwithstanding the existence of any contracts, agreements, licenses, or any other arrangements;

26. Requests the secretary general, in consultation with appropriate governments, to develop within 60 days for approval of the council, guidelines to facilitate full international implementation of paragraphs 24 and 25 above and paragraph 27 below, and to make them available to all states and to establish a procedure for updating these guidelines periodically;

27. Calls upon all states to maintain such national controls and procedures and to take such other actions consistent with the guidelines to be established by the Security Council under paragraph 26 above as may be necessary to ensure compliance with the terms of paragraph 24 above, and calls upon international orga-

nisations to take all appropriate steps to assist in ensuring such full compliance;

28. Agrees to review its decisions in paragraphs 22, 23, 24, and 25 above, except for the items specified and defined in paragraphs 8 and 12 above, on a regular basis and in any case 120 days following passage of this resolution, taking into account Iraq's compliance with this resolution and general progress towards the control of armaments in the region;

29. Decides that all states, including Iraq, shall take the necessary measures to ensure that no claim shall lie at the instance of the government of Iraq, or of any person or body in Iraq, or of any person claiming through or for the benefit of any such person or body, in connection with any contract or other transaction where its performance was affected by reason of the measures taken by the Security Council in resolution 661 (1990) and related resolutions;

30. Decides that, in furtherance of its commitment to facilitate the repatriation of all Kuwaiti and third country nationals, Iraq shall extend all necessary cooperation to the International Committee of the Red Cross, providing lists of such persons, facilitating the access of the International Committee of the Red Cross to all such persons wherever located or detained and facili-

tating the search by the International Committee of the Red Cross for those Kuwaiti and third country nationals still unaccounted for,

31. Invites the International Committee of the Red Cross to keep the secretary general apprised as appropriate of all activities undertaken in connection with facilitating the repatriation or return of all Kuwaiti and third country nationals or their remains present in Iraq on or after 2 August 1990;

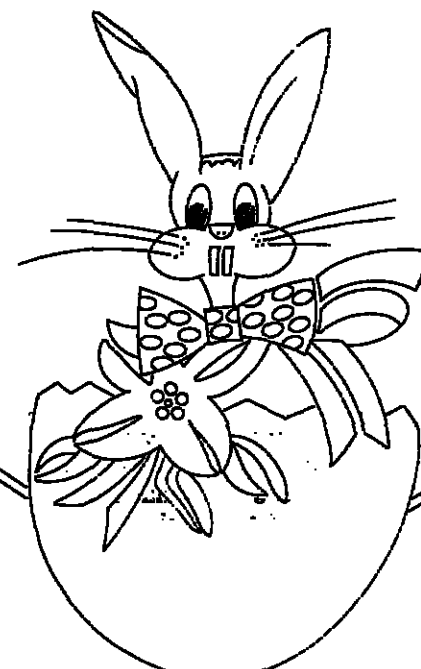
32. Requires Iraq to inform the council that it will not commit or support any act of international terrorism or allow any organisation directed towards commission of such acts to operate within its territory and to condemn unequivocally and renounce all acts, methods, and practices of terrorism;

33. Declares that, upon official notification by Iraq to the secretary general and to the Security Council of its acceptance of the provisions above, a formal cease-fire is effective between Iraq and Kuwait and the member states cooperating with Kuwait in accordance with resolution 678 (1990);

34. Decides to remain seized of the matter and to take such further steps and may be required for the implementation of this resolution and to secure peace and security in the area.

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Jennifer Capriati

## Meskhi upsets Capriati

HILTON HEAD, South Carolina (R) — A listless and error-prone Capriati suffered one of the earliest defeats of her budding career when she fell to Soviet Leila Meskhi 3-6 6-3 6-3 in the third round of the \$500,000 Family Circle Cup Tennis Tournament.

With her first victory over a top-10 player, the ninth-seeded Meskhi earned a quarter-final meeting with third-ranked defending champion Martina Navratilova.

Top seed Navratilova advanced with a 6-3 6-4 victory over Petra Langrova of Czechoslovakia.

Second seed Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina also rolled into the quarter-finals with a 6-3 6-2 win over 10th-seeded Canadian Helen Kelesi.

Kelesi, 6-2 6-0 conqueror of Argentine Mercedes Paz.

Capriati, who turned 15-year-old last week, appeared to recover from a shaky 0-3 start when she reeled off six successive games to take the opening set.

But the 10th-ranked American began making uncharacteristic errors in the second set and repeatedly failed to take advantage of opportunities.

Meski took control of the baseline duel and levelled the match on her fourth set point when Capriati netted a backhand.

Capriati's backhand continued to let her down in the third set and she appeared sluggish and reluctant to go for winner as Meski built a 5-2 lead.

The American teen sensation finally displayed some fight as she produced a trio of match-saving winners to pull to 5-3 before the 17th-ranked Soviet served out the match in the ninth game.

"I really didn't go for it and she was making everything," said Capriati.

"I got the feeling that I didn't want to go for it," she continued. "Maybe I was scared I was going to miss because I was making a lot of errors, especially of the backhand."

The other quarter-finals pit third seed Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain against unseeded Italian Federica Bonisignori and fourth seed Jana Novotna of Czechoslovakia against eighth seed Natalia Zvereva of the Soviet Union.

## Leeds seeks return to golden days

LONDON (R) — Leeds United, seeking a return to the golden days of the 1970s, could move closer to third place in the English soccer first division if they beat Wimbledon this Saturday.

A win at Plough Lane would put Leeds three points behind Crystal Palace with a game in hand over the south London club, who are playing in a domestic cup final Sunday.

Since Leeds last won the championship in 1974 they have never finished in the top three.

Wimbledon, who have never finished higher than sixth in the first division, had their 10-match unbeaten run ended by Manchester United in midweek but are determined to avenge an earlier defeat at Leeds.

They lost 3-0 at Elland Road last year and Manager Ray Harford said: "We lost badly up there

over Christmas and it's up to us to get revenge. We have tightened up a lot since then."

Wimbledon fullback Terry Phelan is fit again after missing five games with a thigh strain but may be unable to win back his place in the side from on-form replacement Gary Elkins.

Leeds, who beat relegation-threatened Sunderland 5-0 on Tuesday, expect to regain centre-half Chris Fairclough, who hurt an ankle at Chelsea, in place of John McClelland.

Leaders Arsenal, the favourites for the title after thrashing Aston Villa 5-0 at High-bury Wednesday travel to Sheffield United looking for a win to go eight points clear of champions Liverpool, who are not in action.

With Liverpool out of the F.A.

Cup, seemingly out of contention for the championship and currently banned from European competitions, Palace or Leeds might hope for England's sole European Football Union (UEFA) Cup place next season by finishing third.

But UEFA President Lennart Johansson has said he expects Liverpool, five points clear of Palace with a game in hand, to be back in Europe next season, a move which would dash the slim hopes of Palace and Leeds.

Manchester City, just one point ahead of Wimbledon, meet Nottingham Forest, who hope to have midfielder Terry Wilson back in their line-up just a week before their F.A. Cup semi-final against second division joint-leaders West Ham.

Andrei Kanchelskis, Manches-

ter United's £1 million (\$1.7 million) Soviet signing, will not be making his scheduled league debut against Aston Villa.

The 22-year-old winger has been delayed and assistant manager Archie Knox said: "We expected him this week but he has been delayed due to international duties. It may be next week or even later before he comes to Old Trafford."

Transfer-listed Lee Butler is pencilled in for only his sixth league game in four seasons for Villa as a replacement to goalkeeper Nigel Spink, who was injured at Arsenal.

In the second division, former England midfielder Glenn Hoddle has his managerial debut for Swindon against Watford, now managed by former Tottenham team mate Steve Perryman.

## Napoli prepares to press on without Maradona

ROME (R) — Diego Maradona took Napoli to the top of Italian soccer. The question being asked now is whether the club can avoid plunging as far as their fallen idol.

When Maradona left Italy for Argentina this week facing up to a two-year ban after testing positive for cocaine, it may have signalled the end of a great era at the club.

"He was the team's guiding light, he decided matches on his own," said team mate Gianfranco Zola.

The light which has been fading all season was finally extinguished this week.

As Maradona scampered home, Napoli, the defending league champions, lost their last chance of honours this season when Sampdoria eliminated them from the Italian Cup in the semi-finals Wednesday.

Eleventh in the 18-team league, they are nearer relegation — four sides go down — than a place in the UEFA Cup they won in 1989.

A previously modest side with just two Italian Cup triumphs before Maradona joined them in 1984, Napoli have since won the first division championship twice

— completing the league and cup double in 1987 — and the UEFA Cup.

Napoli's lowest position in the league in the five seasons between 1986 and 1990 was third.

They know must buy a big-name star again to retain their new status alongside the Italian giants in Milan, Turin and Rome.

Italy's sports dailies have speculated on a post-Maradona Napoli for most of the season while their Argentine star showed his disenchantment with the club, missing training and matches and saying he wanted to leave Italian football.

England star Paul Gascoigne, Bologna's Hungarian playmaker Lajos Detari, new German international Matthias Sammer and Marseille's Yugoslav Dragan Stojkovic have been among those mentioned as possible heirs to the 1986 World Cup star's number 10 shirt.

Napoli are chasing 23-year-old Francesco Dell'anno of second division Udinese, although they face stiff competition from the rich northern clubs for the talented midfielder.

The end of the Maradona era also looks like the end of coach

Alberto Bigon whose contract runs out at the end of the season. They have already agreed terms with Cagliari's Claudio Ranieri to replace him.

But despite their traumatic season, Napoli are in reasonable shape and were unlucky to lose to Sampdoria Wednesday, according to both Bigon and commentators.

"Napoli showed they know how to react well even without their best footballer," said Bigon, who guided Napoli to their second league title last season.

"Napoli can build on this squad for the future," former Italy star Roberto Bettega said after they dominated Sampdoria but came up against fine goalkeeping by Gianluca Pagliuca, and lost 2-0.

"Napoli looked quite good. They're progressing," Italy's 1982 World Cup midfielder Marco Tardelli said.

Napoli forward Giuseppe Inzaghi believes they can regain lost ground immediately.

"Playing like this we can still get into the UEFA Cup," Inzaghi insisted.

The team finishing seventh in the Italian first division could qualify for next season's UEFA

Cup. Sixth-placed trio Torino, Lazio and Parma are three points off Napoli with seven games remaining.

Brazilian midfielder Alemão is expected to move on next season but Napoli want his compatriot Careca to stay and become the team's new standard bearer.

"I came to Italy and to Napoli above all to play with Maradona and for this reason turned down other contracts," Careca said.

"Together with Diego I've won so much and it certainly won't be the same playing without him beside me. But I have a contract with Napoli and I'll respect it to the end," he added.

The Brazilian World Cup star said Maradona's successor could come from within the club.

"Watch out for Zola. Gianfranco is growing up from match to match and since becoming a first team player he seems to have found greater responsibility."

"He could be a guarantee for Napoli's future," Careca said.

Maradona twice this season handed 24-year-old Zola Napoli's number 10 shirt, downing the number nine himself.

"It will be difficult to wear it — that shirt," Zola reflected.

## Holmes to launch boxing comeback Sunday

HOLLYWOOD, Florida (AP) — Larry Holmes "might hit a few notes" Sunday night with Band Marmalade.

That will happen after Holmes resumes to doing what he used to do for a living — hitting another man.

The target will be Tim "Doc" Anderson, who has been chosen as the opponent for the 11-year former heavyweight champion's second comeback.

The 10-round fight will take place at the Diplomat Hotel. The purchase of a \$250 ticket means the holder will not have to pay to hear Holmes and Marmalade at a post-fight party.

Holmes also does a bit of comedy in his show, but he is not looking to follow in the funny footsteps of Foreman, who has become quite a comedian with his

jokes about food, his waistline and his age.

Holmes does, however, want to follow the comeback path of the 12-year-old Foreman.

"George Foreman is going to open the door for me," Holmes said Thursday.

Foreman, who was heavyweight champion in 1973-74, came out of 10 years of retirement in 1987. He talked about winning the title, and people laughed.

Now, 24 fights and 24 victories later, Foreman is set to challenge Evander Holyfield for the title on April 19. He will get at least \$12 million.

"He has to set a goal," Foreman said by telephone in discussing Holmes' comeback. "He's looking at three years."

That's not the way Holmes sees

things. "I want the shot this year," said Holmes, and he would like it to be against Foreman, who he predicts will knock out Holyfield and Mike Tyson, too.

Holmes' plans call for two more fights against opponents the caliber of Anderson, who has a 25-13 record and was knocked out in the fourth round by Foreman in 1987, then a match against a top 10 opponent.

"If I can't win with a top 10 guy, there's no sense in me being there," he said.

On the other hand, Holmes talks about there being a "lot more work to do. I'm not fooling myself. I know the reflexes aren't as keen as they were."

The fight will be only Holmes' second in almost five years. He retired after losing a 15-round

split decision to Michael Spinks on April 19, 1986. Spinks had won the International Boxing Federation (IBF) title from Holmes the previous year. That was Holmes' first loss after 48 victories.

Holmes came back to challenge Tyson on Jan. 22, 1988, was knocked out in the fourth round and retired again.

"I could have beaten Tyson if Don King gave me more time," Holmes said. "He gave me two months."

King, whose relationship with Holmes was a love-hate one, is not involved with Sunday's promotion.

The promoter is LBA Associates of California which has a four-fight deal with Holmes. The relationship has already become bumpy.

## Agassi eliminates Engel at Orlando Tennis Classic

ORLANDO, Florida (AP) — Top-seeded Andre Agassi eliminated Sweden's David Engel 6-4, 6-1 in a second-round play concluded at the Prudential Securities Tennis Classic.

"I won a lot of crucial points tonight by coming into net," Agassi said. "I dug out some low balls that would have made Boris Becker proud. I'm starting to understand the logic of coming into the net, but I'm still not really comfortable with it."

Agassi's win paved the way for an all-American quarterfinal round the first time that's happened on the pro tour since the Volvo Pro Indoor Tournament in April of 1987, a span that includes 275 men's professional events.

Defending champion Brad Gilbert and Maliva Washington also advanced to the quarterfinals.

The hard-serving Engel extended the points just enough to keep Agassi's victory from being routine. After Agassi scored a single service break in game five to take the first set, the match turned on a sequence of three consecutive service breaks in the

second set.

At 2-2, Engel sailed a pair of backhands wide to hand Agassi a break. But Engel set up a break point of his own with a screaming backhand passing shot in the very next game, and clinched it when Agassi netted a volley.

But Agassi struck back in the following game. Using his powerful groundstrokes to keep Engel pinned to the baseline, Agassi forced Engel into two backhand errors to score yet another break and grab a 4-3 lead.

After escaping three more break points on his serve in the next game to lead 5-3, Agassi served out the match two games later to advance to a quarterfinal meeting with Chuck Adams.

Earlier Gilbert, seeded third, defeated Germany's Patrick Baur 6-3, 7-6 (7-5) and Washington beat Venezuela's Nicolas Pereira 6-1, 6-3. Adams struggled past Bryan Shelton 3-6, 7-6 (8-6), 7-6 (7-4).

For the second straight match, Gilbert played just well enough to win. Baur, ranked 91st in the world, appeared headed for defeat at 3-6, 2-4.

## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAM HIRSCH  
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### THE PERFECT DEFENSE

Both vulnerable. West deals.  
NORTH  
♠ 3 7 5  
♦ 10 9 8 6 2  
♥ A 9 7 6  
♣ A 9 7 6

WEST EAST  
♠ Q 10 6 A K 8 2  
♦ J 7 3 Void  
♥ J 5 4 A 9 8 7 6 2  
♣ Q J 8 3 10 5 2

SOUTH  
♠ 9 4 3  
♦ A K Q 5 4  
♥ K 10 3  
♣ K 4

The bidding:  
West North East South  
Pass Pass 1 NT  
Pass 2 ♦ Dbl 2 ♣  
3 Pass 3 Pass Pass

\* — transfer to hearts  
Opening lead: Four of ♣

The Mixed Pair event at the recent World Championships, held in Geneva, Switzerland, was won by Peter Weichsel, of Encinitas, Calif., and Juanita Chambers, of Schenectady, N.Y. Best performance by a married couple was by Kathie and Walt Walwick of Washington,

D.C., who came in third. The defending champions, West Coasters Pam and Jon Wittes, finished a creditable seventh.

Most North-South pairs managed to stay out of game on this hand from the event. South's hand is not as good in support of hearts as it might look. Since North surely has a five-card or longer suit, the queen of hearts is a wasted value and the hand is riddled with losers in the other suits.

At most tables the lead was a diamond to East's ace. East shifted to the king of spades, on which West signaled encouragingly with the ten. Ace of spades and a spade to the queen completed the book and, also, the defense—declarer easily made the rest.

At a few tables, East found the winning defense. When West signaled with the ten of spades, East continued with a low spade. That enabled West to win the queen and continue with a spade to partner's ace. Now a fourth round of spades from East promoted West's jack to the setting trick. If declarer ruffed low, West would overruff; if South ruffed with the queen, the jack was sure to take a trick.

## Andy Capp



## Mutt'n' Jeff



## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY APRIL 6, 1991

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day to be sure you do not talk out of turn or make any disparaging remarks about anyone at all for under today's poor aspects there could be swift anger and estrangement occurring suddenly.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Pleasures can be a bore and not at all satisfying even though on this day but your own personal security of a material nature is alright.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You have some interest in jewelry, art in some form but this is not the time to dwell on such rather to get your health and charm improved.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You have a terrific urge to get off alone to think out how you can be less restless and more practical and this is what is entore today.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Your interest in the lighter side of light should be postponed and you can wisely see friends and discuss personal problems.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) There are some business matters you can discuss this day with an astute higher-up who has the background of experience to answer you right.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) New visions and horizons dawn through which you can have far more of the things that mean the most to you so forget fun today and

pursue them. LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You have some serious or important arrangements to make that require you handle them with preciseness and in a truly cooperative manner.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Being sure that you and your partners understand just what is the overall plan under which you are operating is very important for you.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) You have all sorts of jobs to do and there is no better time for doing than this day when most everyone is in a earthy frame of mind.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You want to have a good time and its alright if you have all that has to do with hobbies perfected so there will be no slip-up.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) This is the time to make sure you spend as much time as possible making repairs at home and doing that which pleases members of your family.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) This is the day to get out communications to others and to discuss with kin, neighbours and personal companions where you are jointly headed.

## THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



Real estate is very valuable! Let's sell a pair of dirt for \$25 and go out to a movie!

## JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TIFAN

SLUPH

REMAID

HAMMEY

As I said, things are getting worse and worse.



THE ONLY THING A PESSIMIST EVER EXPECTS ON A SILVER PLATTER.

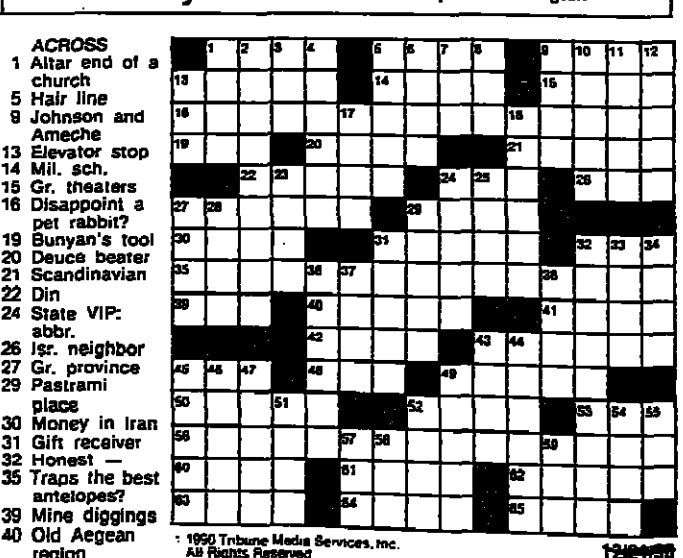
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: ○○○○○○

Yesterday's Jumbles: HUMAN ALIVE PIGPEN TRUDGE  
Answer: What you shouldn't find in a friendly handshake—AN "UPPER HAND"

## THE Daily Crossword

by Hank Harrington



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1 Writer Haley  
2 Bigwig  
3 Sauce type  
4 Amatory  
5 Thin soup  
6 Cereous  
7 Genetic letters  
8 Pitch  
9 Simpleton  
10 Aromas  
11 Full of info  
12 More sensible  
13 GA neighbor  
17 — Major  
18 Begrudged  
23 Some paintings  
24 ft. port  
25 Butterine  
27 Jaccard's ship  
28 Stadium section  
29 Wayward call  
31 Impressions  
32 Disney's forte  
33 Smooch  
34 Spot  
35 Rin —  
36 Swelling  
37 Janet or Linda  
38 Smooth-talking  
43 Brothers  
44 Ida of film  
45 Rich man  
46 Swelling  
47 Janet or Linda  
49 Teutonic gods  
51 Funny Johnson  
52 Six: pref.  
54 Robert Stack  
55 Map follower  
57 WWI  
58 Machine part  
59 Pull



## Report sees 'yen zone' unlikely

WASHINGTON (AP) — Though Asian countries' debt is now mainly in Japanese yen, not in U.S. dollars, the yen does not play as much of a role as the Deutschmark plays in Europe, according to a report to the International Monetary Fund.

Development of a "yen zone" like the "dollar zone" in the Americas is uncertain, it said. A currency is said to have a "zone" or an "area" when it is heavily used for international transactions in the region. Other countries in the region usually allow it to be freely converted into their own currencies and tend to keep their reserves in it.

The report was made by two members of the fund staff, Yuzuru Ozeki, a Japanese, and George Tavlas, a Greek.

It said that in the 1980s the share of Asian debt held in yen almost doubled, reaching 40 per cent in 1989. But Asian countries hold their reserves about 50 per cent in dollars, 15 per cent in marks and not much more in yen — only 18 per cent.

"European countries hold about 25 per cent of their reserves in (marks) and only about five per cent in yen," it added.

In 1987, the last year for which German figures are available, 81.5 per cent of West German exports were in marks. In 1988 only 34.4 per cent of Japanese exports were in yen.

The United States prices 96 per cent of its exports in dollars, and 85 per cent of its imports are also priced in dollars — including

many of its imports from Japan. Major Japanese imports such as oil are traditionally priced in dollars whether they come from the United States or not.

World use of yen has nevertheless increased markedly in recent years. The report points out that Japan has had large surpluses in its international accounts and has become important in world finance.

Since 1985 it has been the largest holder of international reserves: \$290 billion worth in 1989, the report said.

Japan's role, it explained, has been promoted by its low inflation in the 1980s and appreciation of its monetary policy, the freeing up of financial markets in Japan and the increase in Japan's share of exports, especially to Third World countries in Asia.

"Still, the use of the yen has been growing more slowly, than one might expect given Japan's stellar economic performance," the IMF paper said.

It noted that foreigners have trouble getting hold of short-term Japanese securities and can earn only small returns on them. At the same time Japanese have been investing massively in other countries, so foreigners do not need income in yen to make payments to Japanese.

Japanese banks have been important in expanding the use of the yen, but they too have an advantage in borrowing foreign currencies: They lend the money to Japanese business people because foreign currencies are used so much for trade in Japan.

## Plan stresses reform to achieve high economic growth in Tunisia

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia can raise economic growth to an average of six per cent a year between 1992 to 1996 if it carries through long-awaited economic reforms, according to a draft five-year plan which is close to completion.

The plan, Tunisia's eighth since independence in 1956 and made available to Reuters, says that continuing with present practices would lead in the long term to low growth, rising indebtedness and high unemployment.

"Even if it could achieve acceptable levels of development, investment and job creation during the period of the eighth plan, it would later lead to a serious deterioration which would threaten the country's future," it says.

The alternative is a "high-growth" strategy based on the ideas of a 1986 structural adjustment plan approved by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Tunisia achieved growth of almost seven per cent a year in the 1970s, largely because of high oil revenues. But falling oil production and rising consumption

will turn the country into a net energy importer during the mid-1990s.

The plan says a "high-growth" strategy for the 1990s, which would bring about improvements in all the main economic indicators, must include the following policies:

- Reducing the role of the state, encouraging wider participation in decision-making and a trend towards democracy;
- Targeting food subsidies at those who really need them. Otherwise the subsidies bill would rise to the intolerable level of 2.3 billion dinars (\$2.5 billion) a year by 1996;
- Introducing selective charges for public services such as health and education, which are mostly free at present;
- Further privatisation of state-owned companies until the government owns only strategic industries such as electricity;
- Reform of the salary and employment system to increase incentives for hard work and give employers more flexibility to hire and fire. The 1966 labour code should be amended because of

the "excessive protection" it provides for jobs. The Tunisian trade unions fiercely contest this proposal;

- Foreign investment in Tunisia must double from 210 million dinars (\$226 million) in 1991 to 415 million (\$450 million) by the end of the plan. Ignoring investment in oil exploration, which is likely to decline, the increase would be fivefold.

To bring this about, the government should set up free trade zones and advanced technology complexes and press ahead with liberalisation of the exchange rate system with the eventual aim of making the Tunisian dinar convertible. Tunisian officials had hoped to make the dinar convertible by the end of this year.

- Removing the remaining price controls on manufactured goods at all levels. Since the structural adjustment plan in 1986, the government has liberalised retail prices for only 23 per cent of goods because of "weak competition", the plan says;
- Removing the tariff barriers protecting locally manufactured goods from foreign competition.

"Protecting the local market contradicts the aim of encouraging exports and making industry more competitive," the plan says.

The strategy could raise economic growth from about four per cent in the period 1987-91 to six per cent in the period 1992-96 and then 7.7 per cent in the last four years of the century. Tunisia's population would be growing in the meantime at 1.8 per cent a year, to reach nine million in 1996.

The current account deficit would fall from 3.1 per cent of GDP in 1991 to 2.3 per cent in 1996. By the end of the decade the account would be running surpluses.

Unemployment, one of the Tunisian government's biggest political headaches, would fall progressively from about 15 per cent of the workforce this year to 13 per cent by 1996 and 9.8 per cent by the year 2001.

The level of foreign indebtedness would also decline, from 49.5 per cent of GDP now to 35 per cent by the end of the plan.

## Abadan oil refinery resumes full operations

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran has made itself self-sufficient in petrol when it resumed full operations at its giant Abadan oil refinery, Tehran Television said.

The refinery was the largest in the world before it was damaged in the 1980-88 war with Iraq.

Tehran Television, monitored in Nicosia, said the refinery in southern Khuzestan province, was inaugurated by Vice President Hassan Habibi and Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh.

It quoted Aqazadeh as saying production will be boosted by 150,000 barrels a day at the refinery, which started limited operation in February 1990, raising the total from 160,000 to 270,000 barrels a day.

Aqazadeh said Iran would no longer need to import petrol, which it used to do to make up a shortfall in domestic consumption.

Aqazadeh repeated that Iran intends to boost crude oil production from the current 3.5 million barrels to five million barrels a day sometime next year.

Industry analysts say that much

## Aramco to hire 1,000 new workers for Saudi oilfields this year

HOUSTON, Texas (AP) — Saudi Arabian Oil Co. (Aramco) wants to be ready to pump up its oil production after the Gulf war and is running national advertisements to hire 1,000 new workers this year.

The oil company said it plans to boost production capacity to 10 million barrels a day by 1995, five years ahead of schedule because of uncertainty in the oil business due to the war.

Today, Saudi Aramco is producing about eight million barrels a day.

Saudi Aramco said it is advertising for engineers, nurses, helicopter pilots and other workers.

"We're recruiting everybody it takes to run an oil company and a community associated with it," said Bill Tracy, spokesman for Aramco Services Co., the Houston subsidiary of Saudi Aramco, which handles recruiting and purchasing of goods and services.

Tracy said Saudi Arabia wants to be prepared in case it needs to increase oil production to help

## Soviet miners continue strike, stoppages spread to new areas

MOSCOW (AP) — Striking coal miners, ignoring an agreement reached with the Kremlin, stayed off the job Friday as work stoppages spread to other industries in protest of government price increases.

"Despite the fact that most economic demands by miners were met as a result of talks between Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov and President Mikhail Gorbachev with representatives of miners' work collectives, strikes continue," the TASS news agency said.

The miners' representatives Wednesday initiated a pact that met most of their economic demands but ignored their call for

Gorbachev's resignation.

The Soviet leader Thursday vowed he would not step down.

At a news conference Thursday night, miners rejected the agreement as inadequate because it failed to take consideration political demands and did not even measure up to economic concessions that ended a nationwide coal strike in 1989.

"The resolutions and instructions of the Soviet cabinet of ministers, issued as a result of the meeting, did not even meet fully the demands coordinated in the 1989 protocols," said Anatoly Malykhin, a member of the Kuznets strike committee.

As the month-old mine walk-out continued, other workers joined in calling for Gorbachev's ouster.

In the Byelorussian capital of Minsk, nearly 10,000 people walked off the job Thursday, and staged a rally to protest the April 2 increase in the cost of food and consumer goods, TASS reported.

Workers from the Minsk automobile plant and a motorcycle and bicycle plant, as well as doctors and students, joined in the demonstration.

The labour newspaper Trud

## British firms suffer highest failure rate

LONDON (AP) — Almost 8,000 businesses in England and Wales collapsed during the first three months of 1991 as the recession bit hard into the British economy, a survey has reported.

More than 650 companies went out of business every week, the highest failure rate recorded in any one quarter since records were first kept in 1980, according to a survey by business information company Dun and Bradstreet.

The figures represent an increase in the failure rate of more than two-thirds compared with the first three months of 1990, the survey said.

In some areas the rate of business failures doubled this year, the survey said.

Philip Mellor, marketing manager for Dun and Bradstreet, a company well known for monitoring business, said: "These figures show that there has been no let up in the abnormally high rate of business failures between 1990 and 1991."

He said that if the current trend continues, "more than 40,000 businesses are likely to collapse this year."

"The high level of failures is still continuing in the southeast and eastern regions but the disconcertingly rapid increase in the business failure rate has spread to the east Midlands."

The survey showed there were more than 1,000 business failures in the southwest during the first quarter of the year; more than 1,000 in the Midlands; 841 in the northwest; 751 in the northeast; 1,879 in the southeast and 1,500 in London.

### AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday, April 4, 1991  
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell		Buy	Sell
U.S. dollar	677.0	681.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	492.4	495.4
Pound Sterling	1195.5	1202.7	Dutch guilder	356.6	358.7
Deutschmark	401.8	404.2	Swedish crown	111.3	112.0
Swiss franc	475.0	477.9	Italian lira (for 100)	54.1	54.4
French franc	118.7	119.4	Belgian franc (for 10)	195.4	196.6

### LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.7850/60	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.1554/59	Canadian dollar	
	1.6665/72	Deutschmarks	
	1.8780/90	Dutch guilders	
	1.4040/47	Swiss francs	
	34.31/35	French francs	
	5.6410/60	Japanese yen	
	1238/1239	Italian lire	
	136.00/10	Norwegian crowns	
	6.0270/20	Danish crowns	
	6.4830/80	U.S. dollars	
	6.3920/70		
One ounce of gold	358.25/358.75		

### WORLD STOCK MARKETS

TOKYO — Stocks closed firmer after a day of see-saw trading. Position-clearing ahead of the weekend put pressure on prices. The Nikkei average closed up 77.52 points or 0.29 per cent to 26,767.33, with 550 million shares traded.

SYDNEY — The market ended the week lower after drifting down in quiet trading under pressure from a higher Australian dollar. The All Ordinaries index closed 3.4 points weaker at 1456.4.

BOMBAY — Share prices recovered ahead of the weekend on speculative buying but brokers said the market undercurrent was suspect. The Bombay Stock Exchange index rebounded to 1,218.12.

FRANKFURT — Boosted by firmer bond prices and buying from domestic institutions, German shares climbed nearly one per cent. The DAX index ended up 14.90 points at 1,586.87.

ZURICH — Banks and insurers led the market higher but industrialists gave up early gains on a weaker dollar. The SPI index rose 8.6 points to close at 1,082.8.

PARIS — The Paris bourse closed on a firm note as heavy turnover in Blue Chips boosted the market. The CAC-40 index closed up 15.50 points at 1,851.

LONDON — A stock shortage squeezed the FTSE 100 index to an all-time closing high, up 20.8 points at 2,545.3.

NEW YORK — U.S. Blue Chip stocks, fell to fresh session lows before recouping some losses. Traders said they were weakened by the March U.S. jobs data. The Dow Jones average fell 29 to 2,896.



### FOR SALE

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### JOB OPPORTUNITY



The Philadelphia International Hotel, Amman has the following opening:  
**Position: Food & Beverage Manager**

- Applicants should have:
1. University or College Degree in Hotel Management.
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  3. Seven years experience.
  4. Strong personality, appearance, ability to supervise and direct all F&B Department.
  5. Age 30 - 40 years.

Information strictly confidential.  
Candidates interested, please contact the Personnel Manager at Tel 663100, or write to P.O.Box 6389 Amman.

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- Extras: Air-conditioning - auto windows tinted glass - stereo - auto sunroof - new tyres.

Duty paid  
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You choose and we take care of the smallest details.  
The Manager: Madame Eley  
Amra Hotel Commercial Complex-ground floor-tel: 813740

### WANTED

Live-in housemaid to start work immediately.  
Please call tel: 639819

### JOB OPPORTUNITY



Jordan Commercial Centres Corporation has the opening position of a Marketing Officer.

- Applicants should have:
- 1- MBA degree in Marketing.
  - 2- Minimum five years of experience.
  - 3- Fluency in English.
  - 4- Age 30-40 years.

Applications will be treated in strict confidentiality.  
Interested candidates should contact  
Jordan Commercial Centres Corporation  
at tel: 603597, or write to P.O.Box 7704 Amman.  
Applications to be sent latest by Saturday April 13, 1991.

**TODAY AT**

Cinema Tel: 677420  
**CONCORD**  
Duraid Laham — Madlin Tabar  
in  
**Kafroon**  
Show: 3:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 625155  
**RAINBOW**  
Adel Imam — Mirvat Amin  
in  
**TIT FOR TAT**  
(Arabic)  
3:30, 8:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 634144  
**PHILADELPHIA**  
**KARATE KID II**  
Show: 12:30, 3:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 699238  
**PLAZA**  
ADEL IMAM  
in  
**THE PROFESSIONAL**  
(Arabic)  
Show: 12:30, 3:15, 8:00, 10:00 p.m.

Cinema Tel: 675571  
**NIJOM**  
**POLICE ACADEMY '6'**  
Show: 12:30, 3:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.



## Indian party seeks return of Pakistan-held Kashmir

NEW DELHI (R) — India's Hindu revivalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has demanded the return of Pakistani-held territory in Kashmir as part of its platform for next month's general election.

BJP President Murli Manohar Joshi Thursday promised a rally of at least 300,000 Hindus in the Indian capital that if it won the polls, his party would demand that Pakistan return Kashmir territory which it controls.

The former Himalayan principality of Kashmir has been disputed by India and Pakistan since they became independent in 1947. They have fought two wars over the region. India controls two-thirds and the remainder is ruled by Pakistan.

The rally was called to press Hindu militant demands for the site of a 10th-century mosque which they say Muslim invaders built on the birthplace of their god-king Lord Rama in the northern Indian town of Ayodhya.

Joshi scorned critics who said the campaign would alienate India's 120 million Muslims and fuel a separatist revolt in Kashmir, India's only Muslim-majority

state.

"We have been warned by our opponents that if we build the Rama Temple we would lose Kashmir to Pakistan," Joshi said.

"I would like these rumour-mongers to know, that not only will we keep our boundaries secure but we will also start proceedings to retrieve that area of Kashmir which was occupied forcibly by Pakistan," he said.

Joshi did not clarify how his party would reclaim the territory, about a third of Kashmir.

New Delhi maintains the territory is Indian. The issue has been under negotiation since the neighbouring states reached a peace accord in 1972 after a war over the creation of Bangladesh.

The issue has been overshadowed by New Delhi's allegations that Islamabad arms and trains militants waging a 15-month-old revolt in India's Jammu and Kashmir state.

Islamabad denies the charges but has urged a plebiscite on the future of Kashmir. Some 2,400 people have died in the revolt.

Some BJP leaders have proposed the eventual reunification of India with Pakistan, carved from the subcontinent as an Islamic

state on independence from Britain in 1947.

Many of the Hindus, youths and aged holy men, came armed with tridents, swords and sticks to the rally in front of India's presidential palace, intent on turning the mosque site into the main election issue.

Lal Krishan Advani, the likely BJP prime minister if it wins the elections, denied his party sought a theocratic state in India, where three-quarters of the 850 million people are Hindu.

The rally marked an open alliance between the Hindu militant groups who organised it and the BJP. The party, which made major gains in 1989 polls, says it is bidding for power in May.

At least 2,000 people have died in the past 18 months in Hindu-Muslim riots over the campaign to build a grandiose temple to Lord Rama on the mosque site in Ayodhya.

Meanwhile Kashmiri militants in Pakistan, seeking more support for their separatist fight against India, said Thursday they had put off protest march on the frontier until after talks with the Pakistani authorities Sunday.

Thousands of militants, pro-

testing at the lack of Pakistani backing for the uprising in Indian Kashmir, stopped 20 kilometres from the border Wednesday after receiving an invitation for talks from Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) Chairman Amanullah Khan said a delegation of leading militants had met "some important" people in the Pakistani government who promised sympathetic consideration of their demands.

"We have given them until 7th April to accept our demands," he said. If they were not met, the march would resume Monday when the Lower House of Pakistan's parliament was due to hold a debate on Kashmir.

The unarmed militants began a march Wednesday from the Pakistan-ruled Azad (free) Kashmir capital of Muzaffarabad to the Chakothi frontier post 55 kilometres away, which they said they would cross even if it meant death.

They want unconditional Pakistani support for their campaign for complete independence for Kashmir or union with Pakistan.

## U.S. senator killed in plane crash

MERION, Pennsylvania (AP) — Sen. John Heinz and six others, including two children, were killed Thursday when a helicopter collided with his plane over a schoolyard.

The collision occurred as the helicopter was checking the landing gear of the senator's plane, authorities said.

The children killed were on the ground. Most children were in class at Merion Elementary School and only a few were outside at the time of the fiery crash, said John Fowler, head custodian.

"Fifteen minutes later, there would have been 400 kids where the helicopter came down," Fowler said.

Heinz, 52, was in his third term in the U.S. Senate. Heir to the H. J. Heinz food fortune, he was one of Senate's richest members.

He concentrated on issues involving the elderly and on protecting steel from subsidised foreign competition. He helped convince President Ronald Reagan in 1984 to negotiate a trade pact to curb exports to the United States.

He is survived by his wife, Teresa, and three children.

Also killed were two pilots in Heinz' twin-engine Aerostar PA-60 and two pilots in the Bell 412 owned by the Sun Co., police said.

The aircraft burst into flames on impact and showered debris over the old stone houses and manicured lawns in the upper middle class suburb of Philadelphia.

The helicopter wreckage came to rest on the playground about 35 feet (10.5 metres) from the school. The plane fell to the ground on the other side of the building.

"The room started shaking and the windows blew open," said Joelle Morgan, 10, a fifth grader who was in math class at the time. "The teacher yelled, 'fire.' Everyone was crying. Everyone wanted to go home."

Three children and two school employees were injured.

## 10 bomb explosions rock shopping district in U.K.

MANCHESTER, England (R) — Ten bomb blasts ripped through a shopping area in Manchester early Friday, causing damage and fires but no injuries, police said.

The centre of the northern English city was sealed off while police searched for any more bombs.

A fire brigade spokesman said: "Nearly 50 firefighters attended the incident and we believe that the fires are now out."

A police spokesman said about 10 devices exploded in nine stores in and around Manchester's central Arndale shopping area hours before shops were due to open.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility but shopping areas in Northern Ireland have been a favourite target of the Irish Republican Army, which is fighting to oust Britain from the province.

In recent years so-called animal

liberationists, opposed to the sale of furs, have placed firebombs in department stores across Britain.

The IRA recently switched tactics and expanded its bombing campaign against military and political targets on the British mainland to include purely civilian targets.

British authorities stepped up security measures and warnings about suspicious packages in public places after the IRA bombed two main-line railway stations in central London last February, killing one person and injuring 40.

On Thursday 20 incendiary devices were discovered at a train station in Preston, northern England, after a passenger noticed smoke coming from a bag in which they had been placed.

Police speculated that the bag might have been part of a shipment to IRA bombers operating on the British mainland.

## Former Haiti president accused of plotting coup

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Former President Ertha Pascal-Trouillot, who led Haiti to its first democratic elections, was jailed for allegedly conspiring to overthrow her own government.

Her surprise arrest Thursday stemmed from a foiled coup attempt on Jan. 6 by diehard supporters of the ousted Duvalier family dictatorship. The coup leaders were trying to block Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who had been elected president the previous month, from assuming office.

Mrs. Pascal-Trouillot had said she was kidnapped from her home in her nightgown and held hostage at gunpoint in the national palace for 10 hours before loyalist soldiers stormed the building and ended the siege.

At one stage, Mrs. Pascal-Trouillot announced on radio that she was being forced to resign. But she resumed office after being freed unharmed.

On Thursday, the 48-year-old former supreme court judge was brought to the Port-Au-Prince courthouse, where charges were lodged against her.

Government prosecutor Anthony Alouidor said on inde-

pendent Radio Antilles that the former president was accused of complicity in the coup attempt, but he did not specify the charges.

He did not say what evidence the government's allegations were based on.

"We have enough in hand now to warrant her arrest," Alouidor said, without elaboration.

Mrs. Pascal-Trouillot was driven directly to the national penitentiary. She said only: "The eternal is great and his mercy will last forever."

The apparent leader of the coup attempt was former interior and Defense Minister Roger Lafontant, who wanted to overturn the results of the December election in which Aristide was chosen as Haiti's first democratically elected president.

Lafontant, who once headed the Tonton Macoutes, the Duvaliers' dreaded private militia, was taken into custody at the palace along with 15 alleged accomplices. They are still jailed and are awaiting trial.

Aristide has accused the Pascal-Trouillot administration of misappropriation of funds.

## Slain Chilean senator buried

SANTIAGO (R) — Rightist demonstrators threw eggs at Chilean government leaders and screamed calls for a return to military rule at the funeral of an assassinated senator.

Senator Jaime Guzman was shot dead by unidentified gunmen Monday as he left Santiago's Catholic University.

Guzman, 44, a member of the rightist opposition Independent Democratic Union (UDI), was a key ideologue of Chile's military regime and forecast the 1973 coup in which General Augusto

Pinochet toppled elected Marxist President Salvador Allende.

Guzman was buried with military honours in a ceremony attended by Pinochet. President Patricio Aylwin, who took over from the military regime in March last year, and other political leaders from the right and left.

The assassination was widely condemned in the press and by politicians as a crime not just against Guzman but also against Chile's fledgling democracy.

Aylwin, who last month un-

veiled a report detailing the killings of over 2,000 people by the military's secret police between 1973 and 1990, has been struggling to create a climate of reconciliation and national unity in Chile.

Guzman, who never held formal office under the military and was credited by friends with helping some opponents of the military flee into exile, was the first member of Chile's right-wing establishment to be killed after the return to civilian rule.

## 4,893 prisoners freed in Bangladesh

DHAKA (R) — Nearly 5,000 prisoners have been freed from Bangladesh jails since January under government concessions designed to curb prison mutinies, Home (interior) Ministry official said.

"The releases are made under a general amnesty ... to the agitated prisoners who have been demanding early completion of their trials and reduction of the length of punishments," the BSS news agency quoted an official as

saying Thursday.

"A total of 4,893 convicts and under-trial prisoners have been freed between Jan. 15 and March 15," he said.

The government disclosed the figures apparently to defuse tension in Dhaka Central Jail and other prisons across the country.

At least 12 prisoners broke out of a jail in Narsingdi, 50 kilometres from Dhaka, last Sunday.

Police said the prisoners

attacked guards, grabbed their weapons and unlocked the main gate.

Hundreds of prisoners at Dhaka's maximum security jail, where five inmates were shot dead by police in early January, have been staying outside their cells for several weeks, an official said Friday.

"Conditions are also not proper in jails in Chittagong port and other cities," he said but declined to give details.

## No solution yet to Yugoslav crisis

BELGRADE (R) — Yugoslavia was still far from solving its worst crisis since World War Two Friday after its leaders made little progress at their latest talks.

The presidents of the six Yugoslav republics said after a summit in Belgrade Thursday that they had made a step forward but progress could be measured in millimetres. Fundamental disputes that threaten the country with civil war remained unresolved.

"They are going nowhere. They have done absolutely nothing," a Western diplomat said.

Tension has heightened in Yugoslavia, a multi-ethnic federation of 23.5 million people, since three people were killed and more than 20 hurt in the republic of Croatia on Sunday in

gun battles between Serbs and Croats, the country's biggest nationalities.

On Friday, Serbs manned barricades in parts of Croatia after Sunday's violence in Plitvice National Park but there were no new reports of shooting or bomb blasts. The army, deployed Sunday, maintained a show of force in Plitvice.

Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic and Croatian President Franjo Tudjman, national leaders of the biggest and most powerful republics, were no closer to agreement over the cause of this week's conflicts in Croatia or the country's future shape.

The only progress at the Belgrade summit appeared to be that the republics bluntly clarified their views.

Slovenia, a northern republic of about 1.9 million people whose leaders have expressed frustration with months of fruitless negotiations, said it was moving closer to secession.

"Slovenia is determined to become independent and will not agree either to just a reorganisation of the federation or the strengthening of its functions," Slovenian Justice Minister Lojze Janko told reporters.

He said Slovenia was preparing laws to transfer all state functions from Yugoslavia to Slovenian authorities.

In the main conflict dividing the republics, Communist-led Serbia wants Yugoslavia to remain a federation under central rule. Croatia and Slovenia want a loose alliance, or confederation.

## 6 killed as U.S. police overpower gunmen in store

SACRAMENTO, California (AP) — Lawmen have stormed an electronics store in a burst of gunfire to end an 8½-hour standoff with four hostage-taking gunmen. Three of the gunmen and three hostages were killed, authorities said.

At least 13 hostages were wounded and the fourth gunman was seriously wounded in the siege by dozens of officers, including deputies who sneaked into the store.

The gunmen were members of an Asian youth gang called the Oriental Boys and demanded safe passage to Thailand, guns, bullet-proof vests and a helicopter, Sacramento County Sheriff Glen Craig said.

The gunmen wounded two hostages before officers stormed the store and shot at more after the assault began, Craig said.

One gunman "walked ... down the line shooting hostages" as officers opened fire, he said. "They were systematically being shot. All of the hostages were on the floor at the time our people went in."

Craig said the gunmen demanded \$4 million in cash was false.

Seven deputies sneaked into the Good Guys store through a storeroom and hid inside for two hours before the assault, Craig said. They lobbed a concussion grenade that shattered the front-door glass to begin the charge.

Nine of about 30 hostages taken — two men, two women and five children — were freed earlier from the south Sacramento store in Florin Mall. The first three captives were released in exchange for one bullet-proof vest.

The last hostage to be freed, Sean McIntyre, was shot in the leg and sent hobbling to safety through the front doors.

## Bush defends Japan's stance in Gulf

NEWPORT BEACH, California (R) — President George Bush has strongly defended Japan's decision to remain on the side-lines in the Gulf war, saying Tokyo's diplomatic and financial support had been substantial.

Bush also said the United States and Japan had made solid progress in resolving trade differences and that their relations were fundamentally sound.

His comments climaxed a one-day summit with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu at which Kaifu publicly complained about U.S. criticism of Japan's failure to do more to support the allied war effort.

"From day one, Toshiki Kaifu and the Japanese government were in strong support of the U.N. resolutions," Bush said.

"Japan stepped up early on to (make) a fundamental and substantial monetary contribution. Through those months of diplomacy before force was used, Japan played a key role," the president said.

He said the United States and Japan planned to co-operate in post-war reconstruction and that he and Kaifu had discussed how they could help thousands of Kurdish refugees fleeing Iraq after an abortive uprising against Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Japan, constrained by its constitution from sending troops to the Gulf, contributed \$11 billion to the U.S.-led alliance.

Its failure to play a more active ground role, and a dispute over a \$400 million shortfall in its contribution due to exchange-rate fluctuations, have added new strains to relations already bruised by differences on trade.

"Sometimes Japan's efforts have not been properly understood... this has caused some disappointment among the Japanese people," Kaifu said at a joint news conference with Bush.

"Thinking about the future U.S.-Japan relationship, I firmly believe we have to rectify the situation," he said, speaking through a translator.

The two-hour Bush-Kaifu summit at this exclusive seaside resort south of Los Angeles was designed to smooth over differences between the United States and its chief Asian ally. The meeting was arranged to make up for a scheduled Bush visit to Japan in February that was cancelled because of the Gulf war.

## Soviets to stop supplying parts to Nicaraguan army

MANAGUA (AP) — The Soviet Union will stop supplying the Sandinista-led army with spare parts, a leading Soviet official was quoted as saying.

Because of the army's dependence on Soviet-made weapons, the move could seriously undermine the army's ability to wage war or provide arms to other leftist insurgents in Central America.

The announcement Thursday follows reports from Washington that the United States asked the Soviets to cut off aid to the army to undercut the Sandinistas' apparent hold on political power despite last year's electoral loss.

Bernard Aronson, U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, reportedly made the request during a U.S.-Soviet meeting last Feb. 28-March 1 in Madrid, Spain. Aronson also was to ask the Soviets to

dissuade the Nicaraguan army from supporting leftist rebels throughout Central America.

Soviet aid to the Sandinista army is now said to be small compared to the average \$500 million a year during the decade of leftist Sandinista rule. U.S. estimates show the Soviets provided them \$65 million in non-lethal assistance last year. But without spare parts, the armed forces could soon grind to a halt. Nearly all of the Nicaraguan army's equipment is Soviet-made, from its AK-47 combat rifles to its T-55 tanks and MI-26 attack helicopters.

La Prensa, the evening daily owned by President Violeta Chamorro's family, quoted Aleksandr Mokanu, vice president of the lower house of the Supreme Soviet, as saying Moscow would halt spare parts flows to Nicaragua.

## Los Angeles police chief gets paid leave of absence

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Police Chief Daryl F. Gates was placed on a paid leave of absence until investigations of the videotaped beating of a motorist by officers under his command are complete.

The decision by the civilian Police Commission came after a private meeting with Gates. No reason was given for the 60-day leave, decided by three members of the panel who attended the meeting.

"I feel that I have been disgraced and defamed," Gates said

afterward. "I have no idea why this is happening."

Gates said he would fight the order.

The Los Angeles Police chief has been under attack since a group of white police officers repeatedly struck a black motorist after a high-speed chase. The beating of Rodney King was videotaped by an onlooker and televised nationally.

Four officers were charged with felony assault as a result of the beating.

## Coverup charged in alleged rape involving Kennedys

PALM BEACH, Florida (R) — Police in this wealthy enclave were accused in court of covering up information on their investigation into the alleged rape of a local woman by a member of the famed Kennedy family.

The investigation into the rape alleged to have occurred early Saturday at the Kennedy family compound has yet to produce a strong suspect from the group, which included Senator Edward Kennedy, police spokesman said.

"We have not at any time identified anybody as a suspect," police spokesman Craig Gunkel told reporters who have flocked there to cover the latest episode involving the Kennedy family.

Spokesmen for Edward Kennedy and his 23-year-old son, Patrick, has said they were not involved in the alleged rape.

According to preliminary police reports, the woman said she met Edward Kennedy, Patrick Kennedy and Smith at a popular nightclub Friday evening and was invited to the seaside Kennedy compound for cocktails. She said she was raped there early Saturday.

A lawyer for the Palm Beach Post newspaper, which with two other media organisations sued to force police to release a report on the investigation, said that there was a clampdown on information only because the Kennedys were involved.

Senator Kennedy is a brother of the late President John F. Kennedy and late Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

## COLUMN 8

### Dallas to end 13-year run

DALLAS (AP) — The banks have gone bust and now Dallas the TV show that made the city's skyline famous — and gave us the villainous J.R. Ewing — is down the tubes. CBS, the television network which airs the show, said Dallas will end its 13-year run this season, with the last episode on May 3. The news hit fans as hard as one of the show's notorious surprises, "stay tuned" endings. "Oh no," said Deborah Feldstein, who had travelled thousands of miles (kilometres) from Switzerland before hearing the news, clutching her heart. "In Switzerland ... it has had a great impact." Mrs. Feldstein and her husband, Ilja, were among the handful of Dallas fans milling around Southfork Ranch, the Ewing clan's pretend spread in Collin County, just north of Dallas. Fans aren't the only ones grieving about the loss of Dallas, the nighttime soap opera depicting intrigue among the Texas big oil and jet set. "We have got to get another series," said Roger Burke, executive director of the Film Commission of North Texas. "The Dallas series ... is one of the main draws for tourism in the city — the other being the Kennedy Assassination exhibit," Burke said. President John Kennedy was killed in Dallas in 1963. "The series also helped the city's image as far as international business is concerned. Japanese and European car companies know what Dallas looks like because of the beginning of the TV show and they want those same glass buildings in the background of their commercials," he said.

### Thieves rob restaurant, leave big tip

HONG KONG (R) — Three robbers stole thousands of dollars from a Hong Kong pizza parlour — but left employees a generous tip, a police spokeswoman said. The robbers, armed with a gun and a knife, approached a Pizza Hut restaurant before it opened Tuesday and forced the manager to open the safe. They told the staff they would be rewarded if they cooperated. They fled with 90,000 H.K. dollars (\$11,500) after handing out 3,000 dollars (\$385, or an average of some 30 dollars (\$4) to the manager and each of the 13 employees, ranking them as big tipsters by Pizza parlour standards.

### Nick Nolte, wife file for divorce

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Actor Nick Nolte and his wife of seven years, Rebecca, have filed for divorce in what was described as a friendly split. "Nick Nolte and his wife have stressed the divorce is amicable and they will have joint custody of their son," said publicist Paul Bloch, who represents the couple. The Noltes married on Feb. 19, 1984, and have a 4-year-old son, Brawley King Nolte. They live in Malibu. It was the third marriage for Nolte and the first for his wife, who was a model at the time of their wedding. No details were released about a property split or financial arrangements. "It is very amicable," said Bloch.

### Carton of stolen heads dumped on New York street

NEW YORK (AP) — Thieves didn't get quite what they bargained for when they stole a box from a car and discovered six human heads were inside. The box, still containing the heads, was found in a gutter, after apparently being dropped there by the thieves, said officer Scott Bloch, a police spokesman. Dr. William Portney had been taking the heads from New York Medical College in Valhalla to New York Eye and Ear Infirmary for a class in medical dissection. Portney decided to leave the sealed carton of heads in his car when he parked in the East Village neighbourhood of Manhattan. Thieves broke into the car and stole what they apparently thought was marketable booty. "They got about a block away, looked inside and hopefully went stark raving mad," Bloch said. Taxi driver George Casas shooed away a group of people who were gawking at the box with its grisly contents and stashed it in his trunk until police showed up. "I asked someone what it was, and when they told me I thought it was some kind of a joke. But this was no joke," said Casas, adding that he thought the heads "must be very important to someone." "This stuff only happens in New York," Bloch said.